

✓

Ledyard Cogswell, Jr.
75 State Street
Albany 7, New York

Londonderry, N.H.
Jan 2, 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer

I wish to add my tribute to that of others for the effect of Mr. Speer's words & life had on me. The first Northfield Conference I attended was in 1896 as a freshman from Yale. His talk, ^{on} "Purity" has come down thru the years & about seven years ago when as moderator of Albany Presbytery I introduced him at Schenectady I mentioned my remembrances. I can still see his shining eyes & smile & hear those deep tones as he replied. Since '96 we met many times in Albany & elsewhere generally at religious meetings & they were always happy inspiring occasions. Several times he came for meals to our Albany home. You will have heard from others of his influence & power in organizations but I write entirely from a personal side. A sermon on four fathers & four sons, good & bad, has often made me mindful of a son's opportunities for good or evil. During college he presented in his talks many sides of the Christian life & as I grew older his words renewed my courage & desire to maintain & increase my plans to follow Christ. His exact ^{words} have not remained with me but his whole attitude & his many addresses have left a positive result on me. It has been wonderful to have had such an experience. One snowy day when returning from Lakeville we passed him on the road. I stopped the car & went back just to have a few words with him for even such short contacts meant much to me. This has been a very personal letter & I send it as a tribute to him.

I have sent to the ministers
of Five Minutes" copies

Sincerely yours

Ledyard Cogswell Jr.

THE WOMAN'S PRESS

600 Lexington Avenue

NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

PLaza 3-4700

January 6, 1948

✓
Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear Mrs. Speer:

I cannot tell you how happy I am that you are satisfied with Dr. Mott's tribute to your husband. I debated a long time before deciding whether or not to refer to you elsewhere in the magazine, and then decided that you would probably prefer not to have me do so.

We are sending the copies of the magazine as you requested, with a post-card announcement like the enclosed. I hope that this will seem in good taste to you.

I shall be very happy to give you at least fifty more copies of the magazine, and more if you want them. I think it would be too expensive for you probably to have reprints made. I am going to keep your check, much as I hate to do so, because it would seem ungracious perhaps to return it. But please forget about any other money in connection with the additional copies; it is little enough for the YWCA to do under the circumstances.

I hope very much that you will let me know when you come to New York, as I should very much appreciate having the opportunity to see you.

I will find out about the Dorothy Sayer book to which you refer, and will be particularly glad to do so as I am just now reading her "Unpopular Opinions", which is giving me pure and unmitigated joy.

Very sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Bradley
Mrs. Elizabeth Bradley
Editor

EB:ld

P.S. Will you let me know, please, whether you would like to have me send the additional copies to you, or whether you would like us to do the mailing for you? I have a volunteer friend whom I am sure would be glad to do the addressing.



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RECEIVED
CHARLES T. LEBER

DEC 17 1947

✓
Rev. Chas. T. Leber, D.D.,
Board of Foreign Missions,
Presbyterian Church in U.S.A.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Leber:-

Word of Dr. Speer's death did not reach us early enough to enable us to be represented at any memorial service but we share with you the sense of loss in his passing. Dr. Speer was the greatest inspirational figure I have known. His addresses at Student Volunteer Quadrennials still ring in my heart. What impressed me more than his oratory was the freshness with which he always spoke. I have heard him conduct devotional exercises at the Foreign Missions Conference which were so fresh and original that they seemed to come out of the very centre of his being. He was also a great Christian, one of the most Christian men I ever knew. I am glad to have known him. I shall look forward to meeting him again.

Please accept for yourself and the Board the sympathy of all of us here. Dr. Armstrong wishes, I know, to be specifically identified with that wish.

Sincerely yours,

Jesse H. Arnup

JHA:M

ROLLINS COLLEGE
WINTER PARK, FLORIDA
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KNOWLES MEMORIAL CHAPEL

January 12, 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer,

You have often been our thoughts. I do so wish I could have a chat with you particularly on the passing of Dr. Speer. His life may have been full and a glory in the work of the Lord. But there is always that emptiness when a love and partnership such as you had comes to an end. The zest of life is rooted in the fact that everything must end but it is hard. We have this; that we knew him and he made life better for us and a little easier to understand its mystery. Philosophy doesn't help and theology explains so little, only a life illuminates.

We are having a full time. My days are filled to overflowing. Since I stepped into Winter Park I have been besieged by students. The curious fact is more boys are bothered than girls about the problems of faith and God. Religion is not dead but it does need a hearing. We have too few that are willing to state our faith. Everyone seems afraid to confess their shortcomings and inadequacies instead I find they send them all to the Chapel. I keep open house everyday and it is a constant stream. And they are not asking questions about right and wrong but; Can I be a Christian without being a Communist? Is there a God that cares? Can we do anything about the world? Many are concerned about salvation- what is it that does it work? I am thrilled by it all and deeply happy. Sermons are a joy and I may preach what I hope God will accept as His truth. I do feel so weak before the task but confident that in God will be strength and the wisdom.

Nene and the children are having a fine time. To the children Florida is a new adventure and I must admit that I am fascinated by new flowers, birds, fish, vegetables, and history. We have had to learn so much about the country. It is hard to realize that Florida is part of America. The children are delighted with the negroes. Timie in particular finds them all his friends. They are such a wonderful people. What patience, kindness, faith, music and devotion. And why they should have it, I don't know except "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." they are an acceptable.

Good night and may God's blessing keep you today and forever in his memory.

Ted Parrish.

THE HOTCHKISS SCHOOL

LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

GEORGE VAN SANTVOORD, M.A., B.LITT.
HEADMASTER

December 3, 1947

✓
Dear Mrs Speer:

The news of Dr Speer's death has come as a real blow to all of us here at Hotchkiss. He has been a friend of the School for so many years that we had all come to think of him as one of our most valued counselors and advisors.

It was a great joy and satisfaction to all of us when you and he decided to come to Lakeville to live, and your very presence here has been a source of inspiration and strength to those here at School and to all the rest of the people of Salisbury.

Dr Speer impressed us all as having such qualities of strength, sincerity and simplicity that he could not fail to inspire confidence, regard and affection on the part of all those who knew him. His life was spent so clearly in the service of great causes that it had a wholesome effect on everyone who knew him.

We all join in expressing our very deep sympathy to you and to the children in losing so magnificent a person, for we realize all too well the great sense of loss that you all feel.

Sincerely yours,

George Van Santvoord

Mrs Robert E Speer
Lakeville,
Connecticut

The American University at Cairo

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Ring binder 6-7884 26 November 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer -

I am sorry to
read of the death of your good
husband. Only the day before,
I was going over some correspondence
of his with Dr. Watson, and I
remember vividly many contacts
with Dr. Speer at Jerusalem in
1928 and afterwards. Please be
assured of my sincere sympathy.

Faithfully, W. N. Madison
26-10

Ward N. Madison

(Secretary to Dr. Mott
in '26-'28)

2933 Hawker Road -

In 1914

In 1915

See

has damage in Melville.

Tall

Others all in Sparrow

deciduous.

✓ Hawker

was seen in Melville in State Park

Dr. W's decidi very quadrangular.

Sat. Aug. 7.

(Monday 8)

In office every day

Wrote Friday -

Wednesday 11 a.m.

Thursday 12 a.m.

Friday 8 a.m. }

Saturday 9 a.m. }

Monday Aug. 10 a.m.

See fence N. Melville

On fence and wire,

first one his father took

labeled "Gibb" -

CHARLES T. MACLARY
548 Willow Grove Avenue
Custis Woods, Glenside, Pa.

February 16, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Thank you so much for your kind note about my organ music. That it should have given some measure of comfort to you and to the relatives and friends of Dr. Speer is all that I hoped for. The messages contained in those hymns simply ennobled the philosophy of Dr. Speer as exemplified in his life of service and devotion to the cause of Christ and His church.

Most sincerely,
Charles T. MacLary



Maurice Firuski · SALISBURY · CONNECTICUT

Dear Mrs. Speer :-

Please accept
my sincere sympathy.

Your friend

Maurice Firuski

Nov. 26, 1947

W. B. -

40 WORTH STREET
NEW YORK

R. F. D.
Allendale, N. J.

November 26, 1947.

My dear Mrs. Speer,

May I add my sympathy and prayers to those of your closer friends?

My Father was John A. Terhune, Princeton '89, and Dr. Speer was his best man and close friend. I believe that I met Dr. Speer at one of the reunions of the Class of '89 but Father Terhune always had the greatest respect for him in all his capacities as a minister and personal friend.

I note that you are living in Lakeville, Conn. We, for many years, were in Millerton, N. Y., where Father was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

I hope that you will have the comfort and sustaining help of your many friends and, even more, that beneficent blessing from above.

Sincerely yours,


Herman R. Terhune

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Lakeville,
Conn.

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—
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158 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, 10

✓
✓ ✓
November 27, 17

Dear Mrs. Soper -

We are all remembering you
and the family circle at this time - and
also feel that it was a privilege to have
known your husband. ^{many, many}
times he has been a true friend to me
and a great help. ^{We miss} miss
him, indeed.

With every sympathy -

Very sincerely

William H. Barbour

809 Lighthouse Avenue
Pacific Grove, Cal
December 2, 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer,

A letter from Isabel Norton
has just come telling me of your great
loss in the passing of your wonderful
husband - the anniversary of my own
dear Mother's leaving me twenty-five
years ago - How the years fly by! Yet
I have never ceased to miss her and so
often long for her to talk things over
with for I have no other family -

Dr. Speer had lived a long, full and
useful life and one ought not to mourn,
though it is always hard to give up
those whom we love best.

Please accept my deepest sympathy,
Affectionately yours,

Mary Louise Allen

MISS ETHEL MORRIS
816 WEST CRESCENT AVENUE
ALLENDALE, NEW JERSEY

✓

December 4, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

This is just to tell you how sorry I am to hear of your great loss, and the loss to all our world. As I am still confined in this nursing home I feel that I am of little help to any one, but can still pray and can say what I know about the cause for missions.

May our Father be with you and give you the comfort which only He can.

Yours very sincerely,

Ethel Morris.

You may know me better as Dr. Sailer's secretary for about thirty years, in which time I also helped Dr. Speer occasionally.

✓
WILLIAM P. SCHELL
8 HEUSTED DRIVE
OLD GREENWICH, CONN.

Dec. 4, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer: Our hearts go out to you and all the family in this great sorrow. You are all very brave as Dr. Speer would want you to be. It is impossible for me to tell you what he meant to me, I am the time he came to me, Rawrersville and will be to the staff of the Board — and then for 20 years walking under him in the great cause to which he gave his life. He was in every sense a great man and a great Christian. Harriet and I are remembering you all in prayer, that you may all be comforted by the presence of your Heavenly Father and that the

may give you the courage you
will need to carry on. I am writing
you another letter I am writing
you regarding the plans
for the Memorial Service
With our deepest sympathy

Sincerely

William P. Kelly

REV. CHARLES CURTIS McINTIRE, D. D.
"NATIONAL PRISON CHAPLAIN"

Room 703, 1200 Eighteenth Street N.W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

• •

*I have the honor to report my engagements for the month
of February, 1948:*

February

1st—USA Veterans Facility	Wadsworth, Kansas
5th—Baptist Theological Seminary	St. Paul, Minn.
8th—Iowa Soldiers Home	Marshalltown, Iowa
12th—State Prison	Vandalia, Illinois
15th—State Prison	Stateville, Illinois
19th—State University	Jefferson City, Missouri
22nd—U. S. Naval Training Center	Great Lakes, Ill.
29th—State Boys Training School	Eldora, Iowa

REV. CHARLES CURTIS McINTIRE, D. D.
P. O. Box 1256
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

February 19
1 9 4 8

My dear Mrs Speer:

I am very grateful
for your noble response. In memory
of Dr Speer, I sent it as part of
my titheing to The Volunteers of
America in Joliet, Illinois where
they are doing a great work in
behalf of prisoners, too.

Curtis McIntire
Curtis McIntire

Mrs Robert E Speer,
Lakeville, Conn.

W.M. Speer

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EAST MEREDITH, NEW YORK
REV. ELMER T. SCHICK, MINISTER

January 22, 1948

Mrs. Emma Baily Speer
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Although I do not know your personally, I am taking the liberty of writing and trust you will pardon my presumption.

I read of the death of Dr. Speer, whom I have heard and whose books I have read and was sorry to learn of his passing. The Lord was good to him giving him many years of service in His Kingdom, and while the laborers are called home, the work continues.

As a young minister in a rural parish, I am endeavoring to build up a good working library on a rather limited income and am wondering if there are books from Dr. Speer's library that you may wish to dispose of by passing them on to me?

If so, I would appreciate your letting me know and perhaps we can find some way for me to get them.

Sincerely yours,

Elmer T. Schick
Elmer T. Schick

SPRINGDALE
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

January 1, 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer,

My husband had fully intended to get down to Bryn Mawr to see you before he left for Britain but he developed bronchitis the week before he left and had to spend a few days in bed. This upset all his plans and had him racing against time to get away at all. He had, therefore, very reluctantly to give up the visit he had hoped to have with you. He asked me to write you and explain why he was unable to come. It was such a disappointment to him.

We saw him off on that awful day of snow in New York - the 26th of December. At least we saw him on board the "Queen Mary" but she didn't sail till the next morning. We had quite an experience. It was impossible to get a taxi to the dock so we had to take the Subway from Pennsylvania Station to

50th Street and then walk five long blocks to the pier dragging or carrying or both six pieces of baggage four of which were very heavy. Fortunately my son and youngest daughter were with us else I don't know what we should have done. We waded up to the knees in spots in deep snow. I haven't walked in so much snow since I was a girl in Scotland! It wasn't the most perfect tonic for one who had still the after-effects of bronchitis. I am waiting anxiously word of his safe arrival (the boat was supposed to dock today) and of the effect of the voyage upon his bronchial tubes.

I hope you are being upheld in physical strength as I know you are in spiritual. But the strain of the past weeks and the months of anxiety before that, will demand their toll of strength. It is wonderful that you and Miss Speer can be together during these winter months.

SPRINGDALE
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

The Lord is good! I hope Mrs Barbour arrived safely back in England. I did want very much to come forward and shake your hand the day of the Memorial Service in New York but there were so many friends ahead of me and Dr Erdman was waiting for me to take a taxi in order to catch a train, but there was such a feeling that day of being all one family sharing a common loss but rejoicing in a victorious life, lived wholly for the Master that even without the physical hand-shake I felt very near you.

Mrs. Baldwin from New York was in Princeton the other day. While having lunch with her she told me that that sprayer of Dr Speer's on the back of the

memorial

leaflet had been the greatest blessing to her that anything in her life had ever been. She asked if I might ask you if it is incorporated in any collection of prayers or in any other book of Dr Speer's as she would like to get copies for friends. Mrs Baldwin is the daughter of the late Professor William Henry Green of Princeton Seminary and the widow of James Mark Baldwin the philosopher. She attended the Memorial Service in New York.

My husband will be back on the 9th of February. We will hope to get down to see you soon after his return.

Praying that special strength and grace be given you for this year which cannot but hold loneliness for you and with much love

Yours affectionately
Jane L. MacKay

Dear Mrs. Speer

FORTY-TWO DANA PLACE
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

✓

My dear Mrs. Speer,

It was a real sorrow to me to read of the going of Dr. Speer. He has always been such a tower of strength to so many!

My dear Bob had such a high regard for him. We went to New York, not too long ago, to hear Dr. Speer preach. — We both felt that a great privilege.

How peachy you will miss that dear & wonderful life-partner! O! how deeply I miss mine! My love & true sympathy to you.

December 3rd.

Affectionately,
Alice C. Cory

GEORGE INNES

1704 MEADOWBROOK ROAD
ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

Dear Robert
I am sorry to tell you that
my dear father is still
very ill and I am not
in town - on the 20th inst.
I was in Larchmont, but am
now in Brooklyn, New York.
He is having a grand time in N.Y.
He never forgot drawing for us in it,
and he is a painter in 71.2.

With deep affection -

George Innes

V

New York, Dec 1st

Dear Mrs Speer,

We are distressed and grieved to hear the news of Mr. Speer's passing on. The loss is so great to many people in this country and abroad that you will be overwhelmed by the signs of mourning. But permit us, too, to say how grateful we are to have known this admirable man, both meeting him in his beautiful home - in the quiet of the library he had built he had built after his heart's desire, and listening to him, preaching about the eternal verities whose faithful servant he was. Please accept this expression of our mourning and our sympathy,

Sincerely yours,

Hugo and Cecile Heimann.

THE WOMAN'S PRESS

600 Lexington Avenue

NEW YORK 22, N. Y.

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✓

December 9, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear Mrs. Speer:

Although I have known about you and your husband ever since I was a child, I have never had the privilege of knowing either one of you personally at all well. But I cannot forebear a word of appreciation for all that Dr. Speer and you, because I cannot think of you separately, have meant to the lives of an untold number of people.

I think you should know also what it meant to Rose Terlin to have you speak to her as you did on the day of the last Board meeting. She has been having a tough time and she was deeply moved, not only that you found the courage to come to the National Board meeting that day, but because you expressed, as I am afraid too few people have done, an appreciation of her particular problems these days.

Lastly, I want to tell you that Dr. Mott has agreed to write an article about Dr. Speer for The Woman's Press. I have just had word from him that he will be able to do it in time for the January issue.

I wanted you to know about these plans, and also about how many times we have spoken of you in recent days.

Very sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Bradley
Mrs. Elizabeth Bradley
Editor

EB:ld

Woodland Presbyterian Church

FORTY-SECOND AND PINE STREETS
PHILADELPHIA 4. PA.

THE STUDY
STANLEY KIEHL GAMBELL
MINISTER

Mr. West E. Speer.
Hopedale, Connecticut

My dear Mr. Speer:

Adelphi, a Clinic which
meets regularly in this
city, has noted with
great sorrow the passing
of your beloved husband
and our cherished
friend.

On behalf of the men
of our Clinic I am

Woodland Presbyterian Church

FORTY-SECOND AND PINE STREETS

PHILADELPHIA 4. PA.

THE STUDY
STANLEY KIEHL GAMBELL
MINISTER

- writing - to express to
you and your family,
our sympathetic feelings
in this hour.

As the good Master
acquaints your departed
brother with his new
home, - may He continually
acquaint you - with
comfort in your home.

Yours ever
Stanley K. Gambell
Minister

Very sincerely,

Stanley Kiehl Gambell
Minister

600 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

November 24, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer-

Our deepest sympathy goes to you and your family at this time. Mrs. Speer joins me in expressing our sense of loss in the passing of a good friend: Mr. Speer's wonderful life meant so much to so many people and institutions that his work and accomplishments will live for a long, long time.

Our personal, family losses are indeed hard to understand, accept and adjust to, but the courage of our training and beliefs must stand us in good stead at such times.

Our very best wishes to you,

Frances R. Speer

WSB
WILLIAM S. BENNET
NEW YORK 5

44 Wall Street
November 26, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lakeville, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Even though Dr. Speer lived to the advanced age of eighty, his death even at that age saddens many. I am myself in my seventy eighth year and in a religious way, Dr. Speer is the towering figure of my adolescent days. No one will ever be able to compute the good that he did, particularly amongst young people, by his powerful and convincing talks. Every time that I ever had an opportunity to hear him speak anywhere near where I lived or was, I always went, and was always benefited. He leaves to you and yours the most beautiful memories possible of an active and useful life.

Very truly yours,
William S. Bennett

WSB:bf

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✓

November 28, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
"Rockledge"
Lakeville, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Although unknown to you it has been my privilege to know Dr. Speer for more than twenty-five years in fellowship in missionary work and as a young man in training forty years ago to be greatly blessed and influenced by Dr. Speer's life and writings.

Mrs. Snead and I wish to express to you and your family our heartfelt sympathy and assure you of our prayers.

We are glad that even in the hours of deepest sorrow, you have the joy of knowing that Dr. Speer's spirit is with his Master and Lord whom he loved so devotedly and served so faithfully. The comfort of the Holy Spirit be with you and the sustaining presence and power of Christ be realized moment by moment.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I have just sent to the Presbyterian Board of Missions.

Very sincerely in the fellowship
of Christ

A. C. Snead.

Foreign Secretary

ACS/LB

Opens Middle of June
Closes Last of August

Massanetta Springs Summer Bible
Conference Encampment

Address After June 15th
Massanetta Springs
Harrisonburg, Virginia

SYNOD OF VIRGINIA

* * *

STAUNTON, VIRGINIA

March 1, 1948

✓
Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Rockledge
Lakeville, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

We were all deeply shocked and
grieved to hear of the death of your famous
husband, our intimate friend, Robert E. Speer.

He was on the Massanetta program
for about eighteen years and was always considered
the backbone of the program. My wife and I were
devoted to him and so were the multitudes who heard
him.

Bishop Hughes wrote me soon after
his death saying, "well, Robert E. Speer has gone
to heaven. He couldn't have gone anywhere else.
He will be at home up there." He was so intimately
connected with Massanetta and such a great tower
of strength to the program that we feel that language
is inadequate to express our great loss in his passing.

With warmest regards from Mrs. Hudson
and me, I am

Yours most sincerely,

Wm. E. Hudson

✓

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER
WOOSTER, OHIO

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JAMES ANDERSON
RALPH A. YOUNG
ROBERT H. BONTHIUS
CLINTON H. LOEHLIN

1141 Beall Ave.,
March 6, 1948

Mrs. R. E. Speer.
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Mrs. Speer -

From our Foreign Board I have just received a copy of "The Fellowship of the Spirit", by Dr. Speer. I appreciate this, and will use it here and take it back to the Punjab for wider use there in the Church.

For Christmas I sent my father, who is 85, a copy of "Five Minutes," and he writes very appreciatively of it, which he says he uses, daily.

It is indeed true that Dr. Speer, "being dead, yet speaketh." And we missionaries who have known him, can but rejoice that he has entered more fully into that grand fellowship of the heroes of the faith.

among whom he has long
dwelt.]

Very sincerely yours,
Clinton Loehlin

347 EAST 50 STREET
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.
PLAZA 9-7059

December 11, 1947

Dear Mrs. Peer -

This is written because I want to write you but with the hesitancy that comes from not wanting you to have one more letter to answer. Mary Drignan told us that you were present at a National Board luncheon this week so I now know that you are carrying on as always. "Dear Mrs. Peer" Mary said "was there". I'm sorry that I missed seeing you but chance kept to run across you one of those days.

I sent the long notes of Dr. Peer's death to many now all

so that she could share it with
Julia Davis and Elizabeth Wilson etc
out in California.

This is just to send my love
and to say how much I miss
the occasional times you come in
dinner with you at #135.

This apartment is working out quite
well - with Rhoda McFerloch next
door and Oliver van Haren and
Lois Drell here too. If it
weren't a "walk-up" I'd want you
to come over sometime.

I hope some of your family
are with you and you know
that you have the love and admiration
of hosts of people.

Affectionately
Sabre Norton

Please accept my
deep and loving
sympathy

~~Miss~~ Margaret Holley Williams

GHW

Lakeville
Connecticut

July 1907
Mrs. Harold Shadick,
117 Oak St.
Stamford, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Speer,

My very deepest sympathy goes to you in your great loss. Then deepest was here she said that Tatty may be coming over this year - now very sad that she could not come earlier. But I hope that she will come and you will have her hearing for a while. I want to tell you again how much it meant to us to be with you last year. You all have such a gift for quiet understanding and no words can say how much your goodness means to others.

Very affectionately yours,

Mellie

KARIN ROON, 309 WEST 57th STREET, NEW YORK 19, NEW YORK, CO. 5-7750

Mar. 25th 47.

Dear Mrs. Speer,

It is with great trepidation
that I dare to write, to express my deep sym-
pathy at your great loss.-

When a companionship, such
as your marriage is destroyed thru the death
of one partner, one feels that words are too
poor - to reach into the depths of the pain,
and that complete silence is what might
help to sooth and to adjust.

So this note shall only tell

you, that I read of your husband's death
and that my thoughts and prayers are
with you. —

Very sincerely
Yours

James Brown.

The National Board
of the
Young Womens Christian Associations
of the United States of America



MRS. ROBERT E. SPEER
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600 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: PLAZA 3-4700

CABLE ADDRESS: EMISSARIUS, NEW YORK

WB. V November 25, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
c/o Miss Margaret B. Speer
The Shipley School
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Our very dear Mrs. Speer:

I am sure you know better than any words can tell you that the hearts and thoughts and prayers of your friends, the members of the National Board, are with you. We, who have so often turned to you for help and courage in time of trouble, finding strength in your sure faith, find solace now in the assurance that the comfort wherewith we were comforted is yours in fullest measure.

We, too, shall miss that great and good man, your husband. Many of us remember his influence on our own lives and are grateful that in every part of the world today men and women are living more abundantly because his life touched theirs. So we give thanks for the power of his endless life and think of him as entering vigorously and gladly into new and even greater service.

Our hearts go out to you and to your children in deepest sympathy and affection.

Most sincerely yours,

Margaret E. Burton

Margaret E. Burton
Secretary

MEB:eml

✓ ✓ 1148 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Mrs. Speer:

November 29-1947

You have been very much in Jesus's and my thoughts and prayers since the sudden call to Robert to enter into the fuller life for which his life on earth has been such a wonderful preparation. There is very much about the life within the veil that our minds cannot grasp, and yet we know that the eternal life, begun on earth, can find its fullest fruition and meaning only in the life beyond. "For now we see in a mirror dimly; but then face to face: now we know in part; but then shall we know fully even as also we were fully known." In your loneliness may your love and fellowship with him find fuller meaning.

Very sincerely yours
Ed Lorraine

Mrs. Robert E. Speer.
4151 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

Dec. 11, 1947

✓
14 Coolidge Rd.
Worcester, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

It was with deep regret that I read in the newspapers about the passing away of your beloved husband, Dr. Robert E. Speer. Although I had seen him only on one occasion over twenty years ago, I always regarded him as a friend. My late father, Rev. Harttssane Serumian (formerly of the Mission at Tabriz, Persia) thought a good deal of Dr. Speer and always talked of him and of his work admiringly. He lived a full and useful life and we who remain behind shall always cherish his memory.

In behalf of my mother and other members of our family, I wish to extend our condolences to you and may God bless you and comfort you.

Sincerely yours,
Hoosie H. Serumian (M.D.)

✓ Dec 15th,

my dear Mrs Speer.

A letter from
Wren Stone has just
come telling me that
Dr. Speer has opened
a door on his next
great adventure. So day
heaven must be a
finer and richer place
for his coming.

I am glad you
have children who
can be with you.
I know how brave
you will be, and
how thankful for
those years you
and Dr. Speer had
together.

You may not remem-
ber me, but I was
for twenty years with
the rural work on
the Y.W.C.A. National Board
and during that time

was often inspired
by Dr. Speer's talks.
He gave so much of
spiritual vitality
to young and old.

Very faithfully yours
Anna M. Clark.



CHRISTMAS, 1947

It takes great faith -- and courage, too.

"A kindly, brooding, troubled man went to his death the other day in New Hampshire. From his young manhood he was dedicated to public service as to a holy ministry; yet, at the last, tired, disillusioned, with hope gone, he took his own life."

"The stars of promise have all but faded from our sky. Something tremendous is needed to challenge the way men and nations are going. It must set beacons blazing to light a different path."

What if every Christian should see in the Christmas lights of 1947 those beacons of a better way, and follow?

"To think that where young Jesus lay,
Whose love has colored our human way,
There should be terror and strategem!
A bomb has fallen on Bethlehem!"

"The United Nations must do or die in Palestine!"

For East is East and West is West,
But verily the twain have met!

One Nation? One World? One God? One Destiny?
When?

In Christ there is no East or West,
In Him no South or North;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

Yes, it takes great faith - and courage-to
dream the dream of Bethlehem in such an Age,
but nothing else in the universe matters.

The deepest joy of sharing be yours Today -
for a brighter Tomorrow.

29 E. Calhoun St.
Sumter, S. C.

Rebecca Reid

I've thought of you
often since your
husband's going away
and I have sent you
words that cannot be spoken.

The Presbytery of Buffalo-Niagara

TWO HUNDRED TEN FRANKLIN STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Nov 25, 1843

My dear Mrs. Speer: - I add one more letter to
the many you will be receiving - But do not
feel constrained to acknowledge this.

Let me just extend to you my deep
sympathy now that Dr. Speer has ended
his days. He died these days to shine with
the same glory which shone in the face of
his head. I have ever been grateful that
it was my privilege to know Dr. Speer as
well as I did and that as a young man I
came under the inspiring influence of this
person and his ministry.

May this rich glorious memory of
your Husband be a means of great comfort
to you as he was a means of grace to
so many, including me, and may the

Sympathy, the merciful friends and
the divine ministrations of God's spirit
be strong for your sustenance and
comfort and for your children too.

Believe me,

Sincerely yours

Frank L. Jewett.



721 Harrison St.
Claremont, Calif.
December 1, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Gertrude and I want you to know of the deep sorrow that came to us when we had the news of the finishing of Dr. Speer's earthly course. We want you to know that we are feeling with you the emptiness that comes to hearts when the dearly beloved passes on.

Altho not in frequent communication, our heart and thought communion with your family began many years ago and has lasted strong to the present hour - from the time that Marnie spent her first year in China in our home in Peking, into our first intimate acquaintance with Dr. Speer and you and Billy during those delightful weeks you were with us in Peking, until our latest call at your home last summer and down to this day.

We have rejoiced thru the years in these happy associations and now, when the circle is broken for a little while, we want you to know that we join, with myriads of others, in telling you of our deep admiration, esteem, and love for him who will always be honored by the Church as her foremost statesman. We like to think of him also as a very dear friend.

Sincerely and affectionately,

Clark and Gertrude Steinbeck

✓

First Presbyterian Church

Anderson, South Carolina

SAMUEL S. WILEY
MINISTER

2 December 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer:

Word has come to us of the passing of Dr. Speer. I wish that there were some way in which I could express to you my personal sense of loss and my sympathy to you. Yet stronger than any sadness is my gratitude for such a servant of God as he. Surely the trumpets blew long in Heaven the day he came!

Our Church wishes also to express its love to you. May the Holy Spirit comfort your heart and fill it with the peace that comes from perfect trust in the Lord Jesus.

We will always regret, so far as human sense goes, that Dr. Speer could not be with us here. But we will count him as one of our treasures in Heaven and a reason for pressing on ourselves.

Yours sincerely,

Samuel S. Wiley

Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature
Foreign Missions Conference of North America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

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FRANK C. LAUBACH
Special Counselor
and Representative

ALFRED D. MOORE
Secretary

Mrs Robert E. Speer, -

For many years Robert E. Speer has been a source of great inspiration to me. He was indeed a staunch friend of missions and his good works live after him.

Our sympathies are with you in your time of bereavement. We rejoice with you in the same hope which he preached and lived so triumphantly.

Yours sincerely,

Alfred D. Moore.

EDWARD D. GRANT
PRESBYTERIAN BUILDING
8 N SIXTH STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

November 28, 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer,

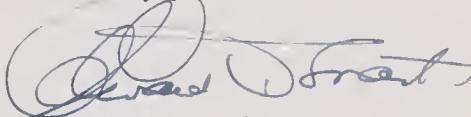
I picked up the local newspaper the other evening and to my astonishment discovered that my good friend for many years had finally been called home to a much needed rest.

In his going you may be confident that there are millions of Christians throughout the world who share your sorrow but also share the joy that must be in your heart in the contemplation of the things which he during his life-time, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, was able to accomplish for Jesus Christ.

These are the things that will live in your memory and in the memory of the Christian Church for a long, long time to come! He has been an inspiration to many of us in years past, and it will be a source of satisfaction always to have known him personally and to have heard his glorious witness to the power of God.

May God's Holy Spirit give you much comfort and much joy in all the days ahead!

Sincerely your friend,


Edward D. Grant,
Executive Secretary.

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Lakeville, Connecticut



2412 W. Chestnut
Yakima, Washington
December 15, 1947

Dear Friends:-

We really, wish, as we stand at the patio gate of our new Yakima home, that we could see you coming up the walk to make us a visit!

The church just has to build us a manse. In four years we had lived in three different houses, and the fourth did not seem to be available. So, in spite of the high cost, we are living in a beautiful brick bungalow, with six rooms, and two baths, all on one floor. In the back, there is an enclosed California patio, which throughout the long summer, really makes another room.

But the church doesn't give either of us much time to rest, in the patio, or in the house. With a membership of 2500, a Sunday school of 1800, two morning preaching services, two Sunday school sessions, women's work, work with young people, extension work at the labor camp, we are both kept on the go.

For the summer vacation we go to Lake Cheian. At the upper end, there is a place of wild and wonderful beauty, reminding one of the mountains of Switzerland. No railroads and no auto roads lead to it. The last fifty miles one has to go by boat. But you can fish, or swim, or hike or sail, or do just nothing. It is very restful, and we love it.

All Mary's friends, realizing the speed with which she does things, will not be surprised to learn that she is a grandmother. In fact, she became a wife, a mother, and a grandmother, all within the space of a year and a half. Three of these grandchildren visited us with their parents this summer.

Shortly after Christmas, Bob is going to the West Indies as a member of the National Board's committee on survey. While he is gone, Mary will be visiting friends in New York.

But after we get back, come and see us! We'll be waiting for you at the patio gate!

Mary and Bob McLean



Dear Mrs. Speer:-

Ever since I heard the news of Dr. Speer's going I have felt that it just couldn't be - I've thought of your loneliness and of Margaret's pain in being absent from the family. So many prayers are with you that I know you are with you that "lift" they do are feeling the lift they are living. I pray that you are well and with loved ones during this most blessed holiday time.

Life in this town is very full. I headed the Women's Division of the Community Chest and am now Chairman of the Mayor's Committee "Christmas Ship" - a project for "the Western States & Alaska" of the four Western & Austria-Germany & France. The train did not take food so the food was carried which the friends helped carry. On top of these duties, my love to you touch - on top of these duties - my love to you many thanks. Many thanks. Mary Moore McLean

Harbour View
Page 1 - Bermuda
December 17th 1947

✓

Dear Aunt Emma -

These little pictures are
'lost' - fast - which I'm sending
in the hope of tempting you to
Bermuda. I've been longing
for years to have you come
and now that British
airways, which beauty and ?
prefer over to Pan American -
is running a service from New
York, it should be only an easy
three hour flight.

30
I can offer you your own room
and bath and sun porch. Breakfast
is fed, complete rest, and even
a little walled garden on the same
level as your bedroom if you don't
want to come downairs. Also
the very warmest bedrooms, it
would be such a great treat for
me to have you here with me.
I'll ask Alice after Sunday leaves
on January 7th, but she'd hate to
miss you, so do come sooner if
you can.

You don't need a pass out, just
some true identification, a warm
hat and whatever clothes you'd like
to road. For the first time we might
have more space for foots, than Thao foots.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

✓
Greenville Avenue at McCommas

Phone Tenison-3-4955

DALLAS 6, TEXAS

JAMES E. DETWEILER, Minister
Residence 6342 McCommas Ave.
Phone Taylor-0077

December 31st, 1947.

RECEIVED

JAN 2 1948

Rev. William P. Schell, D.D.,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, 10, N.Y.

W. P. Schell

Dear Bill:-

Your letter of the 18th instant came when we were in the midst of some problems which necessitated my absence from Dallas. Hence the delay in acknowledgment.

Thank you for the copy of Dr. Speer's Memorial Service. The news of his passing came to me very late. The newspapers hereabouts made no mention of it and the first I saw of it was in Monday Morning. Just the other day I was remarking to Ernestine what a phenomenally long span of years his church service covered! He was a distinguished leader in Protestantism and a great inspiration to my generation of college students, and continued to be so during succeeding decades; and here I am now just past my 63d birthday yesterday! If ever a man lived fully and richly and left a great heritage of Christian scholarship and devotion, it was Dr. Speer.

Since I have lost track of the family's address, please convey to them my very best Christian Greetings.

And to you and Harriet, go my very best wishes for a splendid and happy New Year.

d/d

Yours sincerely,

James Detweiler



THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

January 5, 1948

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Penna.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

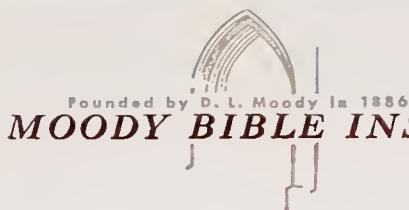
You will be interested in reading the enclosed letter from Rev. James E. Detweiler, D.D., former area secretary of the Board in the St. Louis office, and after the St. Louis office was closed, he was associated with Dr. Bible in the Chicago office.

With kindest regards and best wishes for the New Year,

Very sincerely yours,

William P. Schell

WPS:NV



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE 153 INSTITUTE PLACE • CHICAGO 10 • PHONE MICHIGAN 1570

WILLIAM CULBERTSON, D.D., acting president

December 30, 1947

Dear Friend:

The door of the old year, with all its sorrows and joys, its failures and victories, is closing; but before us God is opening the door to a new year, with new opportunities of service for Him here at Moody Bible Institute. May He find us faithful and willing to do His will.

I thank God for you and your partnership with us, that you as a member of the constantly growing Institute family of prayer helpers, donors, friends, former students, present students and employees have shared in this labor of love. It has taken the prayers, the work, and the sacrificial support of every one of the family to make possible the usefulness of Moody Bible Institute down through the years, and my heart is filled with joy to be one of you, one of the family.

But more important than my thanks is the Lord's commendation to those who stand by His ministry here. Whether it is in the preparation of Christian messengers, in the radio gospel broadcast, or in the printing and distribution of Christian literature, it is His work and we are workers together with Him.

There have been a number of very signal evidences of God's loving care for the Institute during the past year, evidences I would share with you, that you may rejoice with us. As need has arisen, He has brought to us spiritual and qualified workers for both faculty and staff. Such a supply is truly wonderful, for there is the matter of timing in the availability of these workers, which is no small thing. To have them come to us at the time of our need is certainly marvelous proof of God's leading.

All of us recognize the tremendous physical and spiritual needs of the world. It is not possible to do all that we would like to do-- limited resources, faithfulness to our main purpose of existence, human finiteness, all conspire to restrict. Yet when the opportunity came of making available to European countries Dr. Irwin A. Moon's film, "The God of Creation," we entered in. Here was an opportunity for a spiritual ministry through a program which God had already wonderfully blessed in the United States and Canada, a ministry within the scope of the work God has given us, which we could do in full allegiance to Him. Reaching the youth of European countries with such a message was so important that we could not refrain.

RADIO STATIONS WMBI-WDLM . . . MOODY PRESS . . . MOODY MONTHLY . . . MOODY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
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H. Earl Eavey
C. Davis Weyerhaeuser

Another and perhaps the most important evidence of the Lord's favor is the quickening of the spiritual life of all of us here. Beginning with a series of special meetings in September, when our God wonderfully used Mr. Stephen Olford, of England, to speak searchingly to every heart here at the Institute, the work of the Holy Spirit has gone on. There is a deeper sense of sobriety, of earnestness, of alertness to the challenge of the hour. There is a noticeable walking with God. Eternity alone will reveal all the results of such a working of the Holy Spirit.

Standing at the portal of a new year, I assure you of my prayers. The enclosed poem puts into words my desire for you, and for the whole Institute family. How wonderful to know God, especially in days like these! Whatever world conditions, whatever the fear that grips the hearts of men, we can walk "with perfect trust in His love and care." Whatever our lot may be, we can experience the truth that "day by day He will strength renew, and peace to my heart He will send." Beloved in Christ, may this new year be blessed as days of heaven upon earth for you. And, who knows, but that we shall hear His voice and see His face as He comes for His own. Wonderful day!

I thank God for your past fellowship with us, and count on you for the days ahead. As together we face the tremendous needs and opportunities, we know that He who has met these needs in the past so perfectly will meet every present and future need. The day of "the dividing up of the spoils" (I Sam. 30:23-25) may soon be upon us.

Yours in the Fellowship of the Gospel,

William Culbertson
Acting President

WC:MEH

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SOUTHBURG, CONNECTICUT

RICHARD H. RITTER, PASTOR
38 BERLIN AVENUE

DORIS I. STEVENS, CLERK
107 MERIDEN AVENUE

Nov. 29, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

It was a great shock to read of the death of Dr. Speer the other day. Only a couple of weeks ago I had read, in the "Presbyterian Tribune", those beautiful tributes. And I recalled all that Dr. Speer had meant to me in my youth, and (later on) as my chief in the Missions Board. So few has it been given to accomplish as much as he did for our great Cause. And to me he was a real friend & helper.

Through these days of sorrow, Emma & I will be thinking of you & your children with especial sympathy. You rejoice, of course, in your wonderful memories, in the consciousness that you can never lose his companionship, and in the unshakable faith that he is still alive, & still carrying on his work in the very presence of his blessed Lord.

Yet you will have a great deal of loneliness too; you sorrow more but you yourself can understand. May God bless you & strengthen you and give you power for all your needs.

Yours very sincerely

Emma & Dick Ritter

P.S. - We have taken an inter-racial church in Hawaii, and will be leaving soon after Christmas.

W.C.K.
GROVE CITY COLLEGE
GROVE CITY, PA.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WEIR C. KETLER

November 25, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lakeville, Conn

Dear Mrs. Speer:

I was shocked to read in the morning's paper an account of your husband's death in Bryn Mawr. I am writing to express for Mrs. Ketler and myself our sincere sympathy for you and your family.

Doctor Speer has lived a wonderful life and you have been a source of comfort and strength to him throughout these many years. I know what a shock his passing will be to you and to the members of your family. I only hope you may find comfort in the memories of the many happy and constructive years you have spent together.

Doctor Speer has been privileged to make a remarkable contribution to his day and generation. Few men have labored so well or so successfully. He had a remarkable capacity for work, great abilities as a speaker, administrator and writer and had a warm heart and a sympathetic interest which won for himself friends wherever he went.

Along with countless others, we in some measure share the loss that is yours,

Sincerely yours,

Weir C. Ketler

WCK:AA

✓ York R. D. 6 (Granbury)

Pa. To Mrs. Paul Buder

November 29, 1947

Alexandria
Huntingdon, Pa

My dear Anna:

There is no need to tell you how much you have been in my thoughts this week. I have been with Anna for the past two months, Tuesday I drove her to her son James' home near Remond Square shortly before we left she found the announcement of Rob's going in the Inquirer; but there was no indication of where the services would be. I spent Thanksgiving with friends in Lansdowne and yesterday afternoon came here a notice that a telegram was being held at a Kristen Union office in New York, dated from Bryn Mawr the 24th November. So I felt sure it must have been from you or Margaret. I had not known that he was not well again for in your last letter you spoke of his very good health.

I should have loved to be with you dear
friends are so powerless to express the real
ache we feel for those we love who
are suffering a supreme loss. But we
can rejoice, also, that you have had
so many years of perfect companionship.

I can hardly think of the Presbyterian
church without Bob, no one has ever
meant so much to it, and of the
youngest men there are none that approach
his stature.

I am so glad Margaret is at home
instead of China, and Billy not far away.
I am not spending this winter in New
York. For several reasons I wanted to be
with the family of a cousin who is not very
well. The years are becoming few for all
of us generation. So I shall be going to
Alexandria in a week or two. Just now I am
with a daughter of the cousin mentioned.

My warmest affection to you, dear
friend, may perfect grace abide
with you.

Undoubtedly yours
Martha D. LaF.

178
HITCHCOCK MEMORIAL CHURCH
SCARSDALE, NEW YORK

- November 25th. 1947.

MINISTERS
GEORGE HUGH SMYTH
ADELMER ROGERS BRYON

Mr. Robert E. Speer.
Lakeville - Connecticut.

Dear Mr. Speer: I read with deep sorrow in the morning papers to-day the passing of your Beloved Husband - and I want to send to you and your Children my sincere sympathy. How well I remember him - through my Student days - and all through my ministry. He was one of my great inspirations. What a noble Christian he was - I always thought of him as a second - Beloved Disciple of Christ - St. John - and Oh - how many people - young and old he won to Christ and His Cause.

HITCHCOCK MEMORIAL CHURCH
SCARSDALE, NEW YORK

-2.

MINISTERS
GEORGE HUGH SMYTH
ADELMER ROGERS BRYON

may the enclosed beautiful poems
comfort and help you and your son and
daughter: as much as they have me - and
other friends. as we - too - have watched
our loved ones sail away over that
unknown sea - to God's glorious - peaceful -

unseen shore.

With all my prayers - for you - and
your children this day -

Believe me -

One of your many - many sorrowing
friends. George Hugh Smyth

REV W. SHERMAN SKINNER, D.D.
PRESIDENT

DONALD L. HIBBARD,
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

WILLIAM W. WALTERS,
TREASURER

The Board of Pensions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

Witherspoon Building
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

January 15, 1948

Concordia
/

Mrs. Emma B. Speer
825 Montgomery Ave.
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

We are very sorry to trouble you at this time but there seems to be some question on our record as to your correct date of birth. On your application for widow's pension you list it as May 15, 1872 but your husband's original agreement blank lists it as May 15, 1871. May we please know which one of these dates is correct?

Again may we extend our deepest sympathy to you and trust that we may hear from you at your earliest convenience.

With every good wish,

Very sincerely,

Donald L. Hibbard

jlr

REV W. SHERMAN SKINNER DD
PRESIDENT
DONALD L. HIBBARD
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
WILLIAM W. WALTERS,
TREASURER

The Board of Pensions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

WV

Witherspoon Building
Philadelphia 7, Pa.
January 23, 1948

Mrs. Emma B. Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Speer:

It is with deep sorrow that we learned of your husband's being called "home". We know that his going was not easy to bear nor to understand and we wish there was something we could do which would more nearly express our own feeling of loss and our desire to help.

On behalf of The Board of Pensions I wish to inform you that your Service pension has automatically been started. It comes to you in partial recognition by a grateful Church of a service faithfully and efficiently performed by your husband. It is our hope that these benefit payments will be of real use to you and that as the monthly checks arrive they will continuously speak of the Church's interest in you.

Our initial calculations indicate that you are to receive a widow's pension of \$300.00 per year, payable monthly, beginning as of December 1, 1947, and we are enclosing check for \$50.00 to cover payment for the months of December and January. Hereafter, your check will be in the monthly sum of \$25.00.

With every good wish for the future

Sincerely yours

Donald L. Hibbard

dlh:eb
enc.

P.S. Enclosed is a pamphlet entitled "For Those Who Retire", which may be of interest to you.

46 Letter

—
Study further — for
possible use in the
biography —

W. R. W.

Study ~~100~~ ~~100~~ cm

46 Petros

about 2. Spec.

November 28, 1947

327 CLINTON ROAD
BROOKLINE 46, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Mrs. Speer.

May I add my love and sympathy to that of your host of devoted friends, who were deeply saddened by the passing of your wonderful husband. Few rarely know two people who have both together, and as individuals, served the Christian cause more faithfully or fully, and with more enrichment for all who came to know you. Surely you who have brought so much to others will be comforted by Him in these days of sorrow.

I appreciated your note about the
Cathedral Service. I wanted to wish
you that our plans came to fruition
and that it was all quite beautiful.
The only pictures taken were at the
rehearsal of the girls when no Service
was in progress. Thank you for your
helpful warning.

Margaret Burton's Service was
beautiful and some of it is to be
printed in the World Fellowship
Bulletin.

With the hope that we shall
welcome you at 600 Lexington before
too long, and with gratitude for all
the blessings you bring us.

Affectionately,
Marion E. Mercer

Friday, November 28th-1947

MRS. J. G. BASINGER
529 EAST 85TH STREET
NEW YORK 28, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE RE 7 2861

Last fall, my very dear Emma, you wrote of our friendship, and of the roots of that friendship going very deep. I have of course always felt the same; - but never so keenly as during the past week.

After your card from Lakeville telling of your going to Marnie I did not write at once, partly because of lack of time and strength here- but chiefly because I felt that you would want time to adjust your self, and settle down after you reached Marnie, and your your very dear husband reached the hospital. However, though I little dreamed of the seriousness of his illness, you two were never for a moment out of my mind. Last Saturday and Sunday I felt it so very keenly that had it not been that I feared to give trouble, I should have called Marnie. Finally on Monday I sent a note, and as Nance came in Monday evening, I told her of my feeling of unrest about you, and said that I had finally written. She then very hesitantly gave me a copy of Christines telegram from Marcie. Tuesday I received the card from Marcie, telling me of the seriousness of Dr Speers condition. That was written Sunday. Bless you both for thinking of me, and knowing truly how deep were the roots of my devotion to not only you, Emma dear- but your husband and Marnie.

I have not been joking when I have so often said that I did not see how you could stand me, in my own stupidity- but this passed week has made it quite clear to me that there is a deep bond between us- or why should your hours of the deepest trial have been

instinctively felt and lived in my me?

Of course I had heard Dr Speer preach many times before knowing him personally-but my first feeling of that deep sympathy that he so well made one feel was at the beginning of my husbands long illness, when he came to bring us the wonderful basket of delicious things from his garden.I can see him now-coming into our little garden,with that beautiful smile, and I had a feeling that I was not alone, and that I had friends.The last vision of him that I shall always remember, is last summer, just before his birthday, when he came out to join us on your porch for tea,- radiant from a days work well done in the garden-looking more a joyous child in his rosy health and happiness at being with his family-and wearing the white suit, and the pearl pin in his tie!

Those moments with the Speers are always uplifting to me- giving me a glimpse of the ideal home.I feel very humble and grateful that you (collectively) have given me this friendship, which has meant so much to me.

I could not get to Englewood-and I am not sure that I should have gone if I could.I had his beautiful prayers in "Five Minutes a Day", and our own beautiful service, and I passed the quiet hour alone.

It would seem to me presuming to send a ketter of condolence,- for you are far above needing that. He is nearer you now than ever before-and the God who had seen you through such deep rushing waters will still quide and help you. In Marnie, you have one so very like her father, that I can only rejoice in your having been with her, and having her magnificent strength and spirit.

And though I saw little of him, your husbands beautiful quiet strength seemed to me to be there and to understand all things, and it has helped me

more than you or he could ~~every~~ have dreamed. I feel
that strength MRS. J. G. BASTINGER
always be the 52 EAST 85TH STREET
and comfort to me ~~to~~ have known him. tonight, and it will
be the greatest blessing

NEW YORK 28, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE RE 7-2861

I have rambled on, and I trust that I have not
over tired you. I simply felt that I had to really
talk to you. Forgive the crudeness, and the typing
of this-and believe always that I love you, and your
sorrows are indeedd mine, as well as our joys that
have been.

Your husbands going will only strengthen my firm
belief that he is near, and helps lead the way to
life ~~E~~ternal. God bless and keep you, Emma dear-

Lovingly,

John

**MRS. JOHN E. WILLIAMS
152 GROVE STREET
AUBURNDALE, MASSACHUSETTS**

December the 5th

My dear Mrs. Speer and Margaret:
When the news came that our
loved Robert Speer had gone.
it was hard to believe it.

I have waited a while knowing
how many letters you will have
from the countless friends all
over the world who knew and
loved him. But I am one who
knows the lonely road. He changed
life. There is no need to try to
write words of comfort or cause
you and I both, how the

luxury of grief, to have lived
so long / with a good, good
man. For him there is no
death! I called Mrs. McFee
and she just said what we
all say - "A good loss to the
world". The old Chinese proverb says
"A good life shall be fragrant
for a thousand years".

Affectionately

Lillian C Williams -

Coming to
you now /
so I will not
give you a post

DELAVAL L. PIERSON
184 FERNWOOD AVENUE
UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J.

January 24, 1948

Dear Friend Emerson Speer -

The weather you send
me comes this week, just after
I returned home from Los
Angeles. It is a very fine
and attractive coat and will
be wonderfully useful in
this weather. I very
deeply appreciate your
sending it to me and it is a
precious possession, as
it belonged to Rose and
has been worn by her.
I will take good care of it
and will certainly have

him in my heart. His
testimony and influence
abides. Thank you very
heartily for your thought
of me.

When it is convenient
to you I would much
like to see you - whenever
you say.

I wonder what places
you have for a life story
of Rob. He has lived such
a wonderfully sweet full
life that the testimony of
God's dealings with him
and the way God has
led and used him
should not, I think
be forgotten. I should

DELAVAL L. PIERSON
184 FERNWOOD AVENUE
UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J.

be a real blessing to many.
I know Rob's thoughts on
the subject as he expressed
his mind to me "Prayer
Group" a year ago. There
are several who would like
to write Rob's life-story
but could not do it as
the story should be told.

The work might be done
as a labor of love, under
God's direction and with
your cooperation.

I am recommending
your son Billy to prayer.
He has great possibilities

California was very
warm. 87° the day before
I left - and Chicago
registered 12° below 0 , a
needle later.

Now we are leaving a
regular blizzard and don't
enjoy it as much as we did
in our younger days.

May our Heavenly Father
bless you and yours in His
own loving way.

Ever sincerely your friend
Dra. Oscar P. Lewis



UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
BROADWAY AT 120TH STREET
NEW YORK

PRESIDENT'S ROOM

My dear Mrs. Spear,-

I must add this tiny line
to the host of messages of sympathy
and gratitude for Mr. Spear which
must be flooding in upon you.

How can we measure the debt which
uncounted numbers of younger men like
myself owe to him. It is impossible
to realize the influence for faith and

courage and consecration which have gone out
from him unceasingly into countless lives and
dear to the ends of the earth from him
through all these years. To us, it seems
that his life had discharged the
fullest measure of its superabundant
powers and that he was fully ready for
the certain "Well done." But this time
that will ease by only a little your
own sense of emptiness and loss. And
so we send to you in that loneliness,
our sincere affection and sympathy.
Yours faithfully,
my J. Van Wase

December 1, 1947

W. P. McCULLOCH
123 SUMMIT AVENUE
SUMMIT, NEW JERSEY

Nov. 25/47

Dear Mr. Speer

The pilgrim has retired beyond the horizon! He has joined that cloud of witnesses which he so often envisioned. He is "not far from any one of us!" He thoroughly believed this. What a comfort it was to him as he witnessed the passing of so many of his friends. And what a comfort it must now be to you who have walked "in the way" with him these many years. His unseen companionship will still be yours - while he awaits you - so far but yet so near. So few is this (his)

Concept given! May it bring
You great Comfort and Peace

What a host of friends will be
holding you in their loving and
sympathetic thought today. And
What Solace you will have as
you rest in that Wonderfull faith
which has sustained both of you
in life's responsibilities and tragedies
- and which has rewarded you in
large measure in life's satisfactions.

The Sojourn - With members of your
family - will be less lonely because
of the reassuring memories of so
grand a partner - so unsurpassed
as a Christian leader and World
Statesman.

The McCullochs are proud to
have been - even in so small a way -
associated with Dr Speer, their
Christian Hero.

Most Sincerely yours

W O McCulloch

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
BALTIMORE 18, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF WRITING,
SPEECH AND DRAMA

December 1, 1947

Dear S B S:

✓ I have been thinking
of you, and send you my
love.

We live in two worlds,
half here, half there, and
may we all be brought
together in eternal life. As
indeed we are together, even
now.

Dad bless you.

SC

World's Young Women's Christian Association
Alliance Universelle des Unions Chrétiennes de Jeunes Filles
Christlicher Weltbund Weiblicher Jugend

President : Jankvrouwe Cornelia M. van Asch van Wijck

General Secretary : Miss Ruth F. Woodsmall
Assistant General Secretary : Miss M. Marianne Mills

Telegrams : Soramundi, Geneva
Telephone 2.60.93

Headquarters :
37, Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland

Central Office

St. Russell St., London W.C. 1
14. 12. 47.

My dear Emma,

I heard the news of your husband's Home
summers from Kenneth Latourette : my thoughts have been full
of you & him. I hear he died in the hospital at Droylsden
where he had you to mind. I do hope you were able to be
with him at the last.

He is associated with those wonderful talks on "The Man
Christ Jesus", & other addresses which he gave at the Schu-
lents Conference at Keswick in 1894, my first conference,
in my mind ininitely. What a wonderful message
came to us all through him, & how its inspiration has
lasted on through these long years, refreshed by new contact
with the vital secrets God gave it to him to impart.

Hundreds of students at that one conference alone, & through
them hundred of thousands to whom they passed on the
flame. You know the story of how he touched the lives of
J.H. Oldham & Temple Fairbairn, & Douglas Thornton &
Donald Fraser, with his address on the Watchword, as I
have recorded in my History of the Federation. What a
chorus of thanksgiving must be going up all round the
world from those who know a little of what his one life

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Headquarters :
37, Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland.

meant. And I am very sure too that many are giving thanks for you also, and for your share in upholding him and inspiring him in your long partnership on this earth. What a glorious partnership it is: so many, I know, think of your home as a haven taught them what marriage may & should mean.

You'll be terribly lonely, my dear, though there is an almost unanimous record amongst Xtes, who have seen their dearest ones beyond the veil, that there is a peculiar sense of the presence & love & help of the one who is gone granted to us as well as the presence & love & help of the Comforter. May you have both in abundant measure, dear friend. You surely will.

What are you going to do? Are you going today or in your beautiful Lakeside home? Or will you be coming over here on a visit to Patty? Let me know when you come: I shall long to see you. The above address always finds me, tho' I am still leading a somewhat wandering life, reading for periods of time in various libraries for the research & writing I am doing for the World Council of Churches or the History of the Ecumenical Movement. But I want my

friends more than ever. Yours in long fellowship Ruth Rose.

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New York City

CHRIST FOR THE WORLD MOVEMENT



91 LIND AVENUE
MANSFIELD, OHIO



Jan. 7, 1948

✓ Dear Mrs. Speer,

In case it has not been brought to your attention, you will be interested to know that in the Memorial Service for Robert at the Student Volunteer Convention last week at Lawrence, Kansas, the prayer of Robert which you had printed on the folder you sent me, was used, as a prayer, at the Convention. Dr. Arnup, who spoke at this service, asked me some things about Robert, and I gave him this folder of mine, from which the prayer was read. I was so glad that I had it with me, for nothing could have been so appropriate and helpful.

These two little folders of mine
were widely distributed at the Con-
vention, which had 1846 students
and leaders present. The Convention
was strong in many ways and
students were deeply challenged
by it.

We continue to remember all
your household with prayerful
sympathy. I first heard Robert
at Wooster, when he was Secy. of
the S.V.M. He has influenced me
profoundly since that time,
about 58 years ago.

Very sincerely yours

J. Campbell White.

Do not return
in reading of the
remained newspaper

THE ADOBE HOUSE GUEST INN
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA

December 6 1947



Dear, dear Margaret

When they wrote me from
Hadlyme that Robert Speer had left this
world, my first & overwhelming sensation
was of loneliness. I have not seen him
for years. I have not spoken to him for
more than 50 years, but he was here &
all he was doing and loving were of
the greatest interest to me. What he was
doing and loving were the real life of the
world and made me thank God for send-
ing him to my world in my day.
And so I felt very lonely.

I don't see the New York Times nor any
world paper, only the little local paper
that has grown much bigger and more

recently

local, and so I knew nothing of our great loss till Clara, and now Alice, told us.

We are thinking of you; we are thinking of Mrs. Speer, and of his children, but especially Mrs. Speer and Margaret Speer.

Tessie's love with mine

Agnes

P. S.

I am glad that you came directly from the Speers to us last fall, that you told us of the things that Robert Speer read aloud. On account of what you said I got a second hand edition of Walton's Lives and we brought it with us to read here.

WILLIAM B. MOUNT
1817 RANSTEAD STREET
PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

Nov. 23rd 1947.

My dear Mrs. Speer:

The hearts of all Princeton
men, are with you and your
family today. As a classmate
of Robert, we all loved him
and honored him; his life
and words have helped many
of us in difficult times, and
many all over the world are
feeling the same.

I only want you to know
that all our hearts are with
you now.

With sincere sympathy
William B. Mount.

✓
LADIES' MISSIONARY SOCIETY
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
BROOKFIELD CENTER, CONNECTICUT

My dear Mrs. Speer -

Jan. 23, 1948.

Only recently has our Society heard of the death of your good husband, and we wish to send you our greetings and heartfelt sympathy. There is little that we can say - and we are sorry we are so late in saying it! - but we do want you to know that we are thinking of you. We know that you are happy in your memory of him, and also that your faith in the ultimate goodness of God will give you strength to bear your burden and carry on.

The thought of your dear one will always be a stimulus

and a challenge - to you and
to his many friends and ad-
mirers - and will in some
small way mitigate the sense
of great loss.

Our most tender and sincere
good wishes go to you from
each one of us.

Most sincerely yours -

Martha A. L. Curtis.

Bicy

(Mrs. S. B. -)

Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church

Lookout Mountain, Tennessee

February 11, 1948

✓
Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Ave.
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Your letter of February 6th is at hand and most dearly appreciated as is the enclosure of your printed letter. May I say that your writing to the many devoted friends of your beloved husband is what might be called, theologically speaking, a "work of supererogation." You are certainly going far beyond what any one of us would expect of you to answer such letters at all. They are merely the outpouring of an esteem which was in the hearts of a host of folk and they do not require an answer from you. Certainly the printed letter should be sufficient. I hope that you will not burden yourself to do so.

I share with the many others the desire for the biography of Dr. Speer and it would be a wonderful work to which you might devote yourself as a contribution to the Christian world. I pray that God will give you strength to make your decision and to carry out His plans in accordance with His will.

Thank you very much for your offer to send copies of Dr. Speer's latest books, *FIVE MINUTES A DAY* and *JESUS AND OUR HUMAN PROBLEMS*. I already have these and think highly of them.

With a heart full of love from us both and our prayers for God's sustaining strength and grace,

Sincerely yours,

Jinnie



THE TABERNACLE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
THIRTY-FOURTH AND CENTRAL
INDIANAPOLIS ~ INDIANA

ROY EWING VALE, D. D., LL. D.
MINISTER

December 19, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lakeville
Connecticut

My dear Mrs. Speer:

A vast number of letters have come to you since the translation into glory of our honoured and beloved Dr. Speer, the companion of your life.

My heartfelt sympathy has been with you throughout this great trial.

Dr. Speer from my youth has been one of my greatest inspirations. His friendship to me was of great price. When I was elected Moderator of the General Assembly he wrote me one of the most beautiful and moving letters I have ever received, which I shall always prize.

He celebrates Christmas in heaven, for he has gone into the Father's House to renew his youth and to enter upon still greater and higher services.

The vast work he accomplished for Christ and the Church could never have been done without your aid and support and prayer. Mrs. Vale joins with me in this word of appreciation and sympathy and in prayer for your peace of heart.

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

Roy Ewing Vale

REV:mm

AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION
HAINAN ISLAND, CHINA

THE OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Kiungchow,
Jan. 2, 1948

✓
Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York City

My Dear Mrs. Speer:

Hainan Mission writes to express our thanks to God for the life of inspiration and service of our great leader, Robert E. Speer, and our sympathy to his family in their time of bereavement,

For most of us, it is a personal loss. He inspired us with the heavenly vision of bringing Christ to the world. At summer conferences and Student Volunteer meetings, we heard his challenge and came to China to serve.

Throughout our entire missionary career, he has continued to inspire us by his addresses and books and counsel.

Along with thousands of others, we in Hainan Island wish to bring our tribute of love for one whose influence will never die.

Very sincerely yours,

David S. Tappan

DAVID S. TAPPAN

CHARLES L. HUSTON
COATESVILLE, PA.

11/26/1947.

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
C/o Mr. James B. Baily,
Fishers Road,
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

My dear cousin Emma:-

We noticed the report of the death of your beloved husband in the West Chester paper of yesterday, which also reported the services held in the Bryn Mawr Church, so my wife and I want to express our deep sympathy with you in the loss after all these years of association together.

We remember the kindly interest Robert showed in us when he went to New York and saw us off in the steamship on our wedding trip in August, 1895.

We were sorry that we did not know of his death in time to attend the service in the Bryn Mawr Church yesterday.

Very sincerely your cousin,

Charles L. Huston

125
✓
739 Cypress Avenue
Johnstown, Pa.
November 24, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer,

We are thinking of you and your family circle with one more on the other side in heaven. Dr. Speer brought us here the same stirring strong kind of messages at our Anniversary services last spring that has been his special gift for so many years to so many people all over the world.

And in June at the School of Religion in Pittsburgh his evening lectures on the gospel of John meant more to many of us than any other of the lectures that week.

I can remember now the light in an undergraduate's face twenty years ago at Yale as he introduced Dr. Speer to a group of us gathered in a Dwight Hall meeting.

He has been like Great-heart to a host of us pilgrims, and to have been in his company last year was as much a privilege and inspiration as twenty years ago.

Betty joins me in our deepest sympathy to you.

Sincerely yours,

Gordon Scoville

DELAVAN L. PIERSON
184 FERNWOOD AVENUE
UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J.

To Mrs Emma Bailey Spear

February 4, 1948

Dear Emma,

Just a good letter came a day or two ago and I was thankful to hear. The article - a tribute to Rob in the Woman's Press, also came and I thank you. No one has yet done justice to the subject as yet! We join you in missing him more than we can say. I think John Mackay's tribute as the memorial service was the finest and most worthy, I have yet read or heard. Henry Coffin's prayers were very appropriate. He is a very fine friend and Christicem Man. I think, but I hope some one else will write the biography, because though he would do it well. It seems to me that Henry is too much on the "liberal" side to be in full sympathy with Rob's views, though they were good minds.

Weegle Kerr wrote, I think, a good piece of work, but

John Mackay would do better, if
he can undertake it and if
you would like to know him. He
is a wonderful Chrestian and
a very able writer and lived
R. for thirty-seven years.

John Mott was a man and
lived for sixty years but is
too much "John" to write the
biography (I think). This is
very much and I really have
nothing to say about the Mott.

Dr. George Speaks here taught
and comes to spend the night
afflicted. He is a dear fellow
and deeply loves Rob & adores
him. It is remarkable how
busy he keeps.

Please you Mr. induct me
& come to see you where I can
I would it where I can and will
try to let you know in advance.
If you come to New York, I will
be glad to meet you there and
have you take luncheon with me.

It is a long time since I
have met to talk with her.
May Billy be blessed and guided
I would like to know him.

Ever faithfully yours friend
Olaovan L. D.

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

CLARENCE A. STEELE
TREASURER

MRS. ANNIE MARY ALLEN
DANIEL M. PATTISON
ASSISTANT TREASURERS

January 24, 1948.

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Penna.

My dear friend:

At the Board meeting held this week, it was voted to supplement the service pension which you will receive from the Board of Pensions of our Church by \$700 annually, which will give you for the rest of your lifetime from these two sources \$1,000 a year.

We are very happy that the Board is able to do this for those who had retired before 1938. Since that date, it is impossible for the Board to supplement anything that the Pension Board is authorized to pay.

Beginning with January 1, 1948, therefore, you will receive from our Board a check each month for \$58.33 and the Pension Board is supposed to send you directly their \$25 per month. If for any reason you do not receive these payments promptly, won't you please let us know.

Yours most sincerely,

Clarence A. Steele

CAS:PEB

SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL COUNCIL
THE METHODIST CHURCH

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JAMES W. SELLS, EXTENSION SECRETARY

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E. W. TURNLEY
NASHVILLE, TENN.

January 8, 1948.

408 WESLEY MEMORIAL BUILDING
ATLANTA 3, GEORGIA

✓

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Lakeville, Conn.

My dear Mrs. Speer:

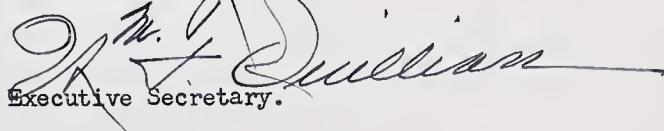
The invitation to attend a Service in memory of your late beloved and distinguished husband was highly appreciated. Conditions made it impossible to be present.

I first heard Dr. Speer in 1901 when I was a college student and he was speaking to a Y.M.C.A. Conference at Asheville, N. C. Mrs. Quillian and I traveled on the same boat with you and Dr. Speer going to the great Missionary Conference at Edinburgh in 1910.

Over the years I have had frequent contacts with him. No word can express the appreciation which his friends have of him and now that his earthly life has ended, we rejoice in the magnificent contribution which he made to the Kingdom of God.

With assurance of sympathy and prayer, I am,

Most sincerely,


W. F. Quillian
Executive Secretary.

Q:b

McCORMICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
2330 NORTH HALSTED STREET
CHICAGO 14

DEPARTMENT OF PASTORAL THEOLOGY

December 10, 1947

Dear Mrs Speer -

This is a belated but
most sincere note of sympathy. Your
husband for fifty years has been one
of my chief heroes. I shall miss him -
and try doubly hard to strive to live
up to the implications of his incarnation
of the principles he laid down (or
rather held up) at his charge at
my installation when I came here.

We had a Memorial Service
at Fourth Church last Wednesday &
I used the following as the most
characteristic thing in Dr Speer (in
my experience) . . . At the time of
Assembly meetings in Cincinnati he
wrote me saying if there were some
small church in the suburbs where

he was wanted, but he glad to go on Sunday
(This beside an aspirant for moderator
Chair who wrote asking for the biggest
chords in the city.)

With kindest regards
and deep sympathy -
+ "A Bane Christmas"

Sincerely
Jessie Halsey

CHARLES G. BOVEY
400 CLIFTON AVENUE
MINNEAPOLIS 4, MINNESOTA

November 26, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lakeville, Connecticut

My dear Mrs. Speer:

I wish I had words to express my real feelings in learning of the death of your husband, Robert. John Crosby brought me the sad news. It appeared in an article in our daily paper and it was indeed a shock.

But why should I express my feelings when I realize the sorrow that has come to you and the members of your family.

I want you to have a word from me that you may know of the very high regard that every member of our Class of 1886 at Andover had for Robert Elliott Speer.

I at once turned to the little catalogue of PAE Fraternity that we were members of in our Andover days and there was listed the number of wonderful articles that Robert had written, all of course on religious subjects.

I haven't been very close to Robert. At the last reunion of our class, two years ago, I was in touch with him again, and in talking with John Crosby yesterday we both remarked what a wonderful life Robert had lived, and I hasten this letter off to you that I may extend to you my deepest, most heartfelt sympathy.

Very sincerely,

Charles G. Bovey

OFFICE OF
FLEMING H. REVELL COMPANY
PUBLISHERS
NEW YORK LONDON GLASGOW
—
CABLE "REVELL"

158 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 10

✓
January 23, 1948

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Lakeville,
Connecticut.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Sometime ago I wrote you a brief note on behalf of Mr. Barbour and myself to inquire whether there were any manuscripts of Robert's, which might be published and had not yet been promised to other publishers. We are, all of us, very keen to utilize his messages at the present hour.

I wonder whether the family have any plans, regarding a Biography of our dear friend. I know how strongly he felt opposed to autobiography, as we often discussed this matter in our annual meetings of the prayer group and Robert characterized them as "ought-not-biographies", but a brief or a full biography the public is surely waiting for and in conversation with Mr. Barbour he spoke of the possibility of securing a brief biography from Dr. Hugh T. Kerr of Pittsburgh.

You, doubtless, recall the number of biographies, good, bad and indifferent that appeared on Dwight L. Moody, and we are not at all desirous of intruding on any plans your or others may have. This is only a letter of inquiry, and our deepest desire is to let the life of him whom we loved speak out to the large circle the message, which it will carry.

With affectionate regards.

Cordially,

Samuel M. Zwemer
Samuel M. Zwemer.

SMZ/lde

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND MINISTERIAL RELIEF

WADE H. BOGGS, *Executive Secretary*

HENRY H. SWEETS
Consultant

410 Urban Building
LOUISVILLE 2, KY.

W.M. H. HOPPER
Treasurer

March 5, 1948


Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Speer:

I was really sorry to learn that Dr. Speer had expressed disapproval of having a biography written of him. It seems to me that such a volume would do an immense amount of good.

Of course, I know that he has left his own message in the splendid books that came from his pen. Some of these however are now out of print. I have suggested several times to the Fleming H. Revell Company that they re-issue his book, "The Principles of Jesus" and some of the others that have carried such practical and helpful lessons to the youth of our day.

I do not know just what ought to be done but I am constantly praying that God may give to you and yours his clear guidance in all of these matters.

No one will ever be able to tell the depth and the extent of the influence of Robert E. Speer.

I think of you so often and wish so much I might see you again. You both left a wonderful impression on the city of Louisville.

Your sincere friend

Henry H. Sweets

Princeton N.J.
28 Mercer St

GW

✓
My dear Mrs. Speer:

I was shocked to read

the sad news - sad for us who are left without
the inspiration of Dr. Robert E. Speer's words
of encouragement and hope.

He told me last August that he would
soon be eighty and that he might not be
able to serve our First Presbyterian Church
in 1948. That conversation was after he had
delivered his last sermon for us and I was
led to tell him that he never seemed more
inspiring. Indeed, Mrs. Stevenson and I
had agreed on that fact before speaking to him.

I was an admirer of Dr. Speer, when he
was in Princeton and I was at School at
Lancasterville and his friendship of recent
years meant a great deal to me, to say
nothing of his loyalty to our First Presbyterian
Church of New York.

Please accept my sincere sympathy.

Yours most truly

Border & Sonnen

✓
RALPH E. DIFFENDORFER
150 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

December 5, 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer:

There is a great vacant space in our lives this week made by the passing of our long time friend, companion and counsellor in many affairs dealing with the great enterprise to which we have dedicated our lives. It was in 1900 or 1901, I think, when as a student at the Lake Geneva Student Conference I first saw and heard Dr. Speer. He spoke on "Remember Jesus Christ." His little book had just come out, or was about to be published - no, it was already published, for I took a copy to him. He inscribed it with his name and a little message, and it has been one of my prized possessions all through these years. From that time on until his retirement we were actively engaged in many enterprises. He was always to be relied upon, always friendly and constructive in councils, not always agreeing but always disagreeing in love and understanding. He was a giant among us.

Furthermore, he has taught us all something about how to retire. I often tell my colleagues that we should follow his example, and when the time of retirement from official position comes then to cut it off and go about other business. The trouble is that not many of us have the resources for speaking and writing with which Dr. Speer was gifted. At any rate, he was superb in the years as he approached his retirement, laughingly telling us all that he was now arranging to turn over the active administration of matters of interest and responsibility so that the work could be done by the next generation. How well he carried this out! While we all missed him in the last ten years I can honestly say that his spirit was with us. His many years of service had left such an indelible impression upon us that he was constantly in our thoughts and in our councils as we planned our affairs for His Kingdom. I could write on and on, but I send this little note that it may be added to scores and scores of others which you will receive and to assure you that both Mrs. Diffendorfer and I send our love and good wishes, and will remember you in our prayers in these days.

Very sincerely yours,

R.E. Diffendorfer

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
"Rockledge",
Lakeville, Conn.

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING
NANKING 5. CHINA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

18 December 1947

✓
Mrs. Robert E. Speer
c/o Board of Foreign Missions
The Presbyterian Church
156-5th. Ave.
New York City
U.S.A.

My Dear Mrs. Speer:

From a clipping from the New York Times recently sent us we have learned, with great regret, of the passing of Dr. Speer in Bryn Mawr Hospital. During his eighty years of life Dr. Speer helped many organizations and churches, and we in far corners of the world have been especially benefitted in the past years by his guidance and friendship.

May we express to you and to your family, our deepest sympathy and profound sorrow at the passing of your husband and father, and our own sorrow at the passing of our good friend.

With regards to you and your family, I am,

Most Sincerely yours,



Y.G. Chen
President

YGC/mkt.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

BRANDAU-CLARK CICHLERSON CO. NASHVILLE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
FOREIGN MISSIONS

DECEMBER



113 SIXTEENTH AVE. S

POST OFFICE BOX 330
NASHVILLE 1, TENN.

C. DARBY FULTON
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

sof

December 3, 1947

Rev. Charles T. Leber, D. D.
Board of Foreign Missions of the
Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Leber:

The news has just come to us of the passing of our great friend and leader, Dr. Robert E. Speer.

While there has been no official meeting of our Executive Committee since this information was received, and no formal action has therefore been possible, I am sure that it would be the wish of our Committee that I should send you at once this expression of the deep sense of loss that we feel as a sister board in the homegoing of this great champion of the cause of Foreign Missions. I realize that Dr. Speer was your very own in a peculiar sense; but he was loved, admired and followed by the whole missionary connection throughout the entire world. Your great loss is ours, too, and we share deeply with you the sense of bereavement that you must feel in his homegoing. We are grateful to God that He has allowed us to be a part of Dr. Speer's generation. Some of us knew him personally and looked up to him as our elder brother. His kindly heart, his powerful intellect and his magnificent faith were always a source of strength and inspiration.

May I then send you this word of remembrance and of fellowship as together we thank God for the life and the work of this great and good man.

Sincerely,

CDF/b

FOR ALL THE WORLD



PRESBYTERIAN PROGRAM OF PROGRESS
FOREIGN MISSION GOAL \$4,000,000

WALTER GILBERT HOAG
POST OFFICE BOX 217
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Jan. 11th 1948.

My dear Friend;

For some weeks I have been reading with much interest that profound book by the noted Biologist du Noye, "Human Destiny," in which he brings forward a defense of the idea of immortality as supported by the theory of evolution. He used several times the term "wake". To quote, "The destiny of man is not limited to his existence on earth and he must never forget that fact. He exists less by the actions performed during his life than by the wake he leaves behind like a shooting star.... He may think his death is the end of his reality in this world. It may be the beginning of a greater and more significant reality."

I thought of this to-day when I heard Dr. Sockman, in his sermon on the Air, quote Dr. Speer. It was to the effect that when Dr. Speer heard a young man doubt God he was wont to ask him what was wrong with his moral life. Thought you might be pleased to hear of this reference so take the liberty of sending this on.

It was good to hear your voice recently and I regret that time, weather and other things prevented my running out and seeing you in person. You little know how comforted I am that your health has so well supported you during these many weeks.

Was at the Farm on Wednesday to give Florence Kirk a treatment and she was much improved at the time, though not out of bed. Was there for Sunday dinner a week ago to-day and found the family about fifty. Had a nice visit with Mrs. Gould. I presume that she with Eleanor and Fritz are in New York this week-end for the Glenn Clark Conference.. Miss Wagner gave me as a greeting and appreciation a copy of "The Healing Light" by Agnes Sanford which I have been reading with keen interest. Agnes Sanford, as you may know is the wife of an Episcopal clergyman who has had a vast experience in healing with prayer. It is the best work on the subject I have seen for some time. Room to add all my best prayers and wishes that God will continue to bless you abundantly - Ever *Fratt. G. H.*

Dear special brother

HENRY H. SWEETS
410 URBAN BUILDING
LOUISVILLE, KY.

W. F. S. (W. F. S.)
Vigorous Health

A. the Louisville

November 25, 1947

pen pals

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lakeville, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Sorrow and a sense of loneliness filled my heart last evening when I read in the Louisville Times of the calling away of your dear husband.

Nobody can know what Robert E. Speer meant to my life during my student days and all the succeeding days. I was thrown with him in so many conferences and conventions, had many personal interviews with him, and read with deepest interest and largest help the fine books that came from his pen.

Wherever I have gone throughout the world I have met students who place Dr. Speer first among those who had richly blessed their lives. Few men since the days of the Apostle Paul have had a broader and deeper ministry and have blessed more lives.

You and yours have my deepest and tenderest sympathy. He has left you a rich legacy in the memory of a devoted and marvelously useful life. The fragrance of those precious memories will oft refresh your souls.

On every hand I hear expressions of deepest appreciation of the helpful visits paid by you and Dr. Speer to Louisville in 1945. We are all deeply grateful for the abiding blessings that came through those meetings.

I earnestly pray that the tender comfort which he and you have brought so often to so many hearts may be multiplied in your experience at this time. I am enclosing copy of two poems that have been of comfort to me.

That "the God of all comfort and consolation who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God," may be very near to you at this time is my earnest prayer.

Your sincere friend

Henry H. Sweets.

✓
REV. FREDERICK P. MUDGE
18 FRANKLIN PLACE
MORRISTOWN, N. J.

brother of ~~brother~~

November 25th 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer,

I remember meeting you once when you were at our home at Princeton when you were engaged or shortly after your marriage.

I have often been thankful that I was a student at Princeton at a time when Robert E. Speer & John R. Mott had such a tremendous influence on the young men of that day & especially that I was a younger brother of Rev. Mudge & so came in contact as a young brother would. It is interesting to me to remember that it was on Thanksgiving Day at Princeton when ~~as~~ ^{Dr. Speer} a "dear" friend & brother with us & how much amused he was when my small boys shaved him the foot ball players we had made among whom was himself; I can truthfully say that through his books, his lectures, his sermons & most of all his personality no one outside the family has helped me so much spiritually. He has been honored with honors interminable, naturally & in the Presbyterian Church, all richly deserved, but I will always think of him as the friend of Jesus & the family & particularly of one who always taught us all by all that he said & did to "Remember Jesus Christ". May you at this Thanksgiving time be able to "give thanks to Him who gave him the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ".

In all of this expression of sympathy Mrs. Mudge yours,

Very sincerely

Fred^{ck} P. Mudge

CHARLES CARROLL ALBERTSON
1115 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY 28

11-26-47

Dear Mr. Meier:

The hearts of us
all who knew and loved you
Robert go out to you and the
children in warmth and
infolding sympathy. A single
sentence from a book I
have just reading strikes
me as applicable to him
"The radiance with which
he had illumined the
lives of those who knew him
will not die so long as
a friend of his survives."

On the Henry Adams
tomb in Rock Creek Cem-
etery in Washington, the
sculptor

Sculptor, St Sanders, engraved
these words:

"The end of birth is death,
and the end of death
is life, to wherefore worship
thou."

Wm Atkinson joins me in
assurance of affectionate
membrace.

I am, Yours faithfully
Charles Cowell Atkinson.

200
Dear Dr. and Mrs. Miller
67-5077

DELVAN L. PIERSON
184 FERNWOOD AVENUE
UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J.

Mrs Edwards Speer

November 26 1947

My dear Friend -

The service in the
Boys' Mayor Chapel was beautiful,
appropriate and Christlike. I
suffered when thinking of myself
and you both & rejoiced over your
strengths where I thought of
Robert and of his rich life of
Gospel service to God and man.
He has lived a wonderful life and
is still living most abundantly,
and with our sympathy, divine
vision and sufficiency.

Robert has meant a great
deal to me in the past forty
years. I have known, admired
and loved him. He was always
a true friend and helper - so
humble, so loving, so Christlike -
- a truly strong man and a
faithful follower of Christ.

My heart goes out to you in
Dr. Kras's poor experience something
of what you are passing through.

I know too you sources of
comfort and of thanks giving for
the memories and realities of
the past, the strength you
in the present and the assurances
for the future. May God richly
bless you day by day and
continue to make you a
blessing.

I suppose and hope that soon
some adequate place ^{will} be
made to contain Bob's
testimony and to put in print
the story of how God has led
and has used him. I know
that he wanted no eccecty, but
he saw the reason for telling
something of the life stories
of others and would not
refuse to have the story of
God's dealings with him,
bring blessing to others.

I will be thinking of you
much and, joined with you
in prayer during the coming
days. Faithfully and affectionately
Yours always &c

U

PRAYER HEALING FELLOWSHIP.

MILTON ABBEY, BLANDFORD, DORSET.

REFERENCE. Robert.

Your letter arrived safely. It was laid on the Altar of Healing, with prayer for God's blessing, guidance and healing. The name has also been entered in the Book of Healing, which is kept on the Alter in the Abbey Chapel.

The needs of the sick and suffering, and other special needs, are remembered in prayer in the Abbey Chapel at 12.30 p.m. each week day (except Saturday). A Healing Communion Service is celebrated on Tuesday mornings at 7.45 a.m.

Prayer and faith do not heal. God heals. All healing flows from God. Prayer and faith are channels through which we receive God's healing for every sickness and every disease.

It does not matter that those who pray for you do not know you. What matters is God's love in the hearts of those who pray, and that we are in tune with Him. God is Love: His love is our life: our life in His love is our health and healing.

If you are not well acquainted with the Healing Message of the Gospel, I advise you to read the subject for yourself. If you are keen and hungry to know more about divine healing you will put your heart into it. God does not ask us to have a blind faith: faith is spiritual insight and understanding.

Please send news of progress when there is any change to report. You have assured us of your co-operation: we cannot indefinitely remember those from whom we have no report. It will greatly assist us if, in all correspondence you will please give the Christian name and address in block letters, and have the designation Mr., Mrs., Miss or other title affixed.

With the best wishes and prayers of the Abbey family and Fellowship,

Yours sincerely,

G. C. Harding. (The Rev:)
Warden.

29th

ORGANIZED 1826

Second Presbyterian Church

Fifth Avenue, between Fulton and Grand Streets
TROY, NEW YORK

REV. FREDERICK W. EVANS, D. D.
MINISTER

November 25, 1947

Dear Mrs. Spear:

Had a ballot been taken in our church as to who our Member Over All was your Dear and beloved husband would have, in my judgment, easily won any time in the last twenty-six years. Great is your loss and ours in his passing.

I'm so glad I was privileged to hear him for a week at Princeton last summer on The Book of Acts. The Same Living Lord who spoke through him to my deepest heart way back at the Student Volunteer Convocation in Toronto in 1902 spoke again to it in the same accents and searching manner in 1947.

ORGANIZED 1826

Second Presbyterian Church

Fifth Avenue, between Fulton and Grand Streets
TROY, NEW YORK

REV. FREDERICK W. EVANS, D. D.
MINISTER

The Lord be thanked specially at
this Thanksgiving season for all that
by His grace he was and is, and
will and shall continue to do!

Mrs. Evans joins me in this expression
of sympathy to you and your children.

Very sincerely,

Fredrick W. Evans

Mrs. Robert E. Spence,
Lakeville, Conn.

11b

65 So Prospect St.

Verona, New Jersey

Nov 25, 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer:-

With the hundreds of now
your dear husband's passing I
want to offer you my loving sympathy.
You will have long since forgotten
me, but I shall always remember
yours and Dr Speer's kindness to

us, when we were missionaries
in Brazil, and I still treasure the

letter Dr Speer wrote me at the time

of Pierce's death, Nov 22nd 1929 -
Your husband was able to make God
seem very real and very dear, and

blessed all who knew him - May God

be very near you - during these days
without him - I know they will be enriched
by your memories of so radiant a person
as your husband - Sincerely Julie Law Chamberlain

(Mrs Pierce a.)

Nov. 24, 1947

Dear Mrs Speer,

Only today have I learned of dear Robert's passing to be with the master. I must write you to share, if it may be, in your loss. We have not often met in recent years but he was a living, vital influence in my life. Especially after I went, at Elliott's summons, to Mount Hermon and then by such a strange providence took up his load did I feel conscious of Robert's spiritual reinforcement, — and your own. What an amazing influence for Christ he had on countless men and women across the world. My whole generation would have been

impoverished but for him.

Alice joins me in this
word of sympathy. We hope and
pray that you may be kept well
for the work we have yet to do.

Always yours

David Porter

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



C. G. GUNN, D.D.
Pastor

AN EVANGEL SINCE 1813
ORMSBY AVENUE AT FIRST STREET
LOUISVILLE 8, KENTUCKY

Dec. 2nd, 1947.

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Lakeville, Connecticut.

My dear Mrs. Speer:

About ten minutes ago we first learned of the death of Dr. Speer. I am writing immediately to express the deep sympathy of Mrs. Gunn and myself. Mother went Home a year ago last April, so they are both at Home with the Lord.

So many times during my privileged fellowship with Dr. Speer, I have wondered how it would be not to have him with us. There was something about him which seemed to me to be immortal.

Dr. Speer will continue to live on in the hearts and minds of a multitude which no man can number. I find myself often asking the question, what would Dr. Speer do under such circumstances.

Those who knew you both realize that you were of one mind and one heart in the spiritual ministry which he performed. May his presence with the Lord and your uncompleted ministry here give you great power and peace until you have fulfilled His plan for your life.

Yours sincerely,



129 S. Vine St.
Lancaster, Pa.
Jan. 1, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Speer,-

May I be permitted to send you a brief note of sympathy in the great loss you have sustained? You may have been receiving almost more letters than you have time to read, but the passing of Dr. Speer is a personal loss to me, too — just because all my life it has been an inspiration just to think of him, occasionally to hear about him, and on a few occasions of treasured memory to hear him speak.

Some of his books have been a great help and stimulus. One that years ago meant a very great deal to me is the small collection of addresses named for the first one "Remember Jesus Christ". I retain a vivid memory of Dr. Speer's beautiful prayer at the Northfield Conference held in Jan. 1918; a period of deep anxiety during the First World War. Through many years I have considered Dr. Mott our Saint Paul, and Dr. Speer our Saint John.

About two years ago I was happy to find the daily devotional book "Five Minutes a Day", and found it helpful, comforting, inspiring. I wrote him about it,

and was deeply gratified to receive an answer from him. I kept the letter. It is in my hands this evening.

I was a missionary teacher in Sendai, Japan, for 36 years, and I'm sure that Dr. Speer's influence was felt by many Japanese, ^{including some} who never saw him.

"Earth is poorer now, but heaven is richer", some one said. Yet really, all of us who loved him should not speak of loss or of being poorer, because he has eternally enriched all who knew him, and who knew about him. He was the embodiment of all the gracious loving-kindness of the Lord. The secret of his life was his devotion to Jesus Christ. "They looked unto Him, and were radiant" - Dr. Speer was one of those.

"To your death came, no conqueror,
in the end -
you merely smiled to greet another
friend."

May you be sustained by the
Eternal Comforter and by the
sympathy of the many who,
unknown to you, loved both
of you.

Very sincerely
(Mrs) Mary E. Geshard.

WALTER LOWRIE WHALLON, D. D.,
MINISTER
MANSE, 30 ROSEVILLE AVENUE

OFFICE OF
THE ROSEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSEVILLE AND SUSSEX AVENUES
NEWARK 7, NEW JERSEY

LAURA EDNA HANNAH
MARY CAMPBELL VEDDER
ASSISTANTS TO THE MINISTER

TELEPHONE HUMBOLDT 3-3361

Dear Mrs. Speer,

I do thank you for your beautiful letter which you sent to your friend under date of December 31, 1947. I deeply appreciate being included. Your letter will be added to my file of very valued letters. It is next to the letter I received from Dr. Speer about the Presidentship of Princeton Board of Trustees. I rather think this was among the last he ever wrote. I enjoyed very wonderful fellowship with Dr. Speer at Princeton on October 14. I walked from Dr. Mackay's home with him

WALTER LOWRIE WHALLON, D. D.,
MINISTER
MANSE, 30 ROSEVILLE AVENUE

OFFICE OF
THE ROSEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSEVILLE AND SUSSEX AVENUES
NEWARK 7, NEW JERSEY

LAURA EDNA HANNAH
MARY CAMPBELL VEDDER
ASSISTANTS TO THE MINISTER

TELEPHONE HUMBOLDT 3-3361

across campus to the Library for our meeting. I rode with him on the train to Princeton Junction and from there to Newark later. It was a privilege I will always cherish. Ten years before, to the day, I talked with him on the train. In speaking to him then about our feeling that it was such a loss to the Church that the rule made necessary his retirement when he was in such strength of leadership and service. I spoke of Dr. F. Ross Stevenson and Dr. Charles Erdman as being also included in my thought. His answer I have never forgotten -

WALTER LOWRIE WHALLON, D. D.,
MINISTER
MANSE, 20 ROSEVILLE AVENUE

OFFICE OF
THE ROSEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSEVILLE AND SUSSEX AVENUES
NEWARK 7, NEW JERSEY

LAURA EDNA HANNAH
MARY CAMPBELL VEDDER
ASSISTANTS TO THE MINISTER

TELEPHONE HUMBOLDT 3-3361

that he felt it to be a good rule for the Church in the long run "and that, I think, a man is entitled to a little time for himself. The little time was a bit more than ten years. But how he used those ten years for his Master whom he so devotedly loved and served - all in the unselfish, sacrificial way he had always lived and served. I am glad for this opportunity to tell you in a brief way how I cherished his friendship and valued my association with him on the Board of Education and the Board of Foreign Missions.

WALTER LOWRIE WHALLON, D. D.,
MINISTER
MANSE, 20 ROSEVILLE AVENUE

OFFICE OF
THE ROSEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSEVILLE AND SUSSEX AVENUES
NEWARK 7, NEW JERSEY

LAURA EDNA HANNAH
MARY CAMPBELL VEDDER
ASSISTANTS TO THE MINISTER

TELEPHONE HUMBOLDT 3-3361

Your own letter with its expression
of God's peace and comfort steadies
and strengthens us as we are privileged
to receive it.

I do thank you for taking time to write
the personal note. We are in agreement
on Psalm 118. verse 17.

Very sincerely,
Walter L. Whallon.

1st Dec 1947
46. Elmwood,
Welwyn Garden City,
Herts.

✓
Dear Granny,

I hope you are well.
A few weeks ago I had
my picture in the paper
at a toy fair with father
Christmas. When mummy
told me about Wobbie I
burst into tears. I love you
and him so much. Alison
has got a new (bigr) bike.

We have a lovely pussy
or cat named Porpet.

We have a televison and
we saw the prinsses wedd-
ing but it was not on in
side the abbey. All the same
I saw it on the pictures.
I hope you have a very
happy Christmas. I will
try to send you a card.

Lots of love from
Ruth.

× × × + × × × × ×

620 AMBERSON AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, 6, PENNSYLVANIA

November 25, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Charity and send you our sympathy in your great loss.

Dr. Speer was our ideal of what a Christian should be. I have had this feeling about him much of the time since first heard him speak at the Philadelphia Society in Princeton when I was a freshman, more than forty years ago. In recent years, when I have served with him on the Board of Foreign Missions and the Princeton Seminary Board, the feeling has been stronger than ever. We

loved to see him and hear him when he
came here to preach. He was the greatest
preacher of his time, perhaps because he al-
ways practised what he preached. We ad-
mired him more than any of his contempo-
raries, and we loved to see him in our home
or to be near him anywhere.

We pray that God will bless you and
yours, and give you strength for the day.

Affectionately yours,

John G. Buchanan
Mrs. Robert C. Speer

W.B.

Frances Bradley

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Accept my loving
sympathy in this your time
of sorrow. Amidst your grief
must be rejoicing for the
wonderful life of your

✓ November 25, 1947

husband and the firm
believe you both have that
this parting is only for awhile

"Go forward Christian soldier
Fear not the gathering fight:
The Lord has been thy shelter
The Lord will be thy light"

I will always remember
Dr. Speer as a kindly Christian
gentleman, a scholar and a
friend.

My heartfelt sympathy
to all your family,
Ever your friend
Mildred Bradley

✓
TRESSLER HOMESTEAD
LOYSVILLE, PERRY CO.
PENNSYLVANIA

Nov. 24th.

Dear. dear Mrs. Speer:

George & I are
mourning with you in your
great sorrow, but are remem-
bering, too - the great faith &
love of the one who has gone -
we know that he is well
off, & could tell us not to
sorrow - but to labor on. We
are sending an extra
C.A.R.E package in his name -
asking that receipt be sent
to you. I know that you & your
dear husband - will approve
With deepest sympathy &
warmest love - George & Ruth

"CARE" package
inland
H. J. Scott
Soyerville, Pa.

The Bible Search and Gospel Extension Bureau

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SPECIAL SUBJECTS
SPECIAL LEADERS
COME IN,
REST, READ
YOU AND
YOUR FRIENDS
ARE CORDIALLY
WELCOME

Dear Mr. Spur:-

Fifty years ago

Robert generously consulted
with my mother regarding the
above Bureau & its Travelling
Libraries. Twenty five years
later mother left for her real
home. Now Robert has gone.

As we think of his warmth
of welcome there, our sense of sorrow
& loss is lessened. Heaven was ever
a close & clear reality to him, and
his spirit in finding there a joy and
peace and satisfaction which it
could not find here.

Robert meant so much in
the lives our Scott family, including
Ruth, that our gratitude can never
be expressed or our indebtedness repaid.

We will try to honor him by endeavoring to lead the sort of life of service he always preached and earnestly practiced. Before we leave here Friday, Ruth & I are giving or heading up four or five major projects he would like.

We pray for your comfort & guidance in these days of loss & loneliness.

If there is any way in which we can help in any way, please let me know.

With deepest sympathy.

Sincerely yours

George Scott

As Robert would prefer, an extra "care" package replace flowers.

Mount Hermon School
Mount Hermon, Massachusetts

November 24, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer,

I want you to know that we are remembering you and your family in our prayers.

Dr. Speer was loved by us in this life and now is loved in his Father's house. He meant much to Mount Hermon School; his help to the school will always be remembered. To me personally he was a

great man of God, a saint who
lovingly labored for God's kingdom
until the end. I took courage
from him, as I felt that somehow,
though our meetings were brief
and few, he had given me his
blessing in this wonderful work
at Mount Hermon.

All of us at Hermon will
miss him, his friendly visits,
his inspiring sermons which
reached our boys hearts, even though
the span of years was great between
preacher and boy.

Please let me know
if there is anything I can
do for you, any time.

Faithfully yours,

Howard L. Putendall

Eric M. North

Bible House
New York City
32 Badeau Avenue
Summit, New Jersey

✓

November 28
1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:-

I have learned of Dr. Speer's death with deep sorrow, but also with the stirrings of wonderful memories. His warm fellowship with Father and the appreciation of the latter which he often expressed to me gave him an affectionate interest in me that I shall always treasure. I am deeply grateful for the occasions when I had a chance to work alongside him and to sit at his feet. How often he gave me all unconsciously

fresh inspiration and a sense of
the strength Christian truth and
Christian living send out from
a great heart! His interest in
the China Colleges and the B. I. C.
Society, where my work has largely
been, was always an encourage-
ment and a reinforcement.

His great services to the Kingdom
of our Lord no man can measure
but one may bear witness with
warm heart to the personal influence
he exerted and know that it is
but a tiny fragment of the
experience of thousands and thousands
of others.

Pray the strength and comfort
of the living God, to whom he was
so close, be yours in these days
of separation and loss!

Faithfully yours,

Eric H. Frock

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lynnville, Conn.

J 9/24
ALEXANDER HOLLEY RUDD
UPPER FARM
LAKEVILLE, CONN.

My dear Mrs Speer

We are so sorry for you
and yours - and for
ourselves

Always Sincerely
Holley Rudd

November twenty sixth.



15, GRAMERCY PARK
NEW YORK CITY 3

Jan. 9-1947

dear Mrs. Spear -

I did want to send
you just a line of Remsen -
brace where I saw the notice
that Robert Spear - who
used always seem such a
truly great and wonderful
person to us, when we
were very young in Engle-

word, had gone on, out
of this troubled world, to
where we know his heart
always was at home.

What a beautiful and
inspiring life: how many
years of great happiness,
full of work of lasting
value here!

I always bear a little
news of you all from Manasi-

15, GRAMERCY PARK

NEW YORK CITY 3

-at Sherman: You will
always seem like real friends
to me, always doing and
being the things we care
to think about.

With love and sympathy -
after all, how very little we
do see or know here!

Ellen Chater

FIVE HIGHWOOD WAY
LARCHMONT
NEW YORK

Dear Mrs. Speer.

Especially today have
our thoughts been with you-
and I know that if at all
possible, Mr. Herlihy attended
the Memorial Service for Dr. Speer
this afternoon.

It was a real shock
to hear of Dr. Speer's passing.

we were glad to know, however,
that he slipped quietly away and
did not have a long illness.

Dr. Speer has been one of my
husband's ideals. I met recently
Dr. White spoke of having
presided at the morning worship
hours at the Princeton Institute
last summer. This gave him
an opportunity to pay a tribute
to Dr. Speer. I know it was a
true appreciation of what

FIVE HIGHWOOD WAY
LARCHMONT
NEW YORK

He meant not only to Dr. Herkert,
but to many others also.

Dr. Herkert joins me in
sympathy to you and your family.

Very sincerely,

Agnes S. Herkert

December 15, 1947.

YALE UNIVERSITY
NEW HAVEN CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 1, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
Lakeville
Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

It is with deep regret that we have learned of the death of your husband. I write to express on behalf of Yale University our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

Charles Seymour

Dear W. E. Browning:

439 Bloomington Avenue

Woonsocket, Rhode Island

November 27th, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:—

Yesterday came the sad word of your dear husband's Home-going. I cannot tell you how deeply I sympathize with you in your great sorrow and loneliness.

Yet, on this Thanksgiving Day, as I count the multitude of blessings for which I am so grateful, this is not the least: I have known him; and have had a very small part in the

work he loved so much.
Among the many friends
my husband had, I am sure
there was no one he loved
and honored more than
Dr. Speer, nor whose opinion
he respected more. To me,
he - and Bishop Oldham -
seemed the most saintly
men I ever knew.

What a welcome he must
have had Yonder, from
his dear ones who have
gone on!

My affectionate and sym-
pathetic greetings to you
and yours. Most sincerely,
Hallie May Brooking

V

SAMUEL M. ZWEMER

THIRTY THREE FIFTH AVE.

NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

Feb 4 - 48

Dear Mrs. Speer - I thank you for your reply to my inquiry received yesterday. We are all of us deeply interested in any plans for Robert's biography; and I would love to see a condensed popular edition of his "Finality of Jesus Christ" which Dr. Cadet of Princeton calls his masterpiece. Dr. Barbour is out of town but I have shared your note to me. We have had very cold weather but my health holds out & I was able to take weekly engagements for the Grace Presbyterian

Church in Montclair - a series of wed. evening talks
on Evangelism.

If you pass through New York at any time please
stop for a cup of tea Mrs. Forester I would
feel highly honored to welcome you in our
apartment where "the Prayer-drops" met these past
seven years.

With sincere regard

Yours cordially
"Sam"

✓
MARKHAM W. STACKPOLE
242 HIGHLAND STREET
MILTON MASSACHUSETTS

November 29, 1897

Dear Emma,

Nearly four years ago Robert sent me his little devotional book, "Five Minutes a Day", and in dear memory of him I have been reading this morning his own prayers in that choice collection. I am so glad that he succeeded

those personal expressions
of the deep religious feeling
that marked his devoted
life.

I have been thinking, too,
as often before, especially
about the beautifully
Christ-like quality of
Robert's spirit in his
relations with people and
in his attitude toward
them.

On the fly-leaf of the
little book, he wrote, "With
sincere affection" - - an

inscription that has meant
much to me and always
will. How I wish that I
might have seen him again
after the long interval since
deadlier days! But I shall
cherish the remembrance
of his influence ~~and my~~
own feeling of sincere
affection.

You will have many
letters about Robert, and
you must not try to
acknowledge this once. Best

Agnes and I want to send
our word of loving sym-
pathy to you and also
to Margaret, Connie, and
William.

Always affectionately yours,
Markham Starkweather

RAYMOND C. WALKER, MINISTER
THE MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Nov. 24-1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Just after reading my office this morning I received word of the passing away of Dr. Speer. It was a very great surprise to me for I had not known that he was ill. A conflicting engagement prevented me from being present at the meeting of the Seminary Trustees or possibly he was there. At any rate I knew of his visit to Gettysburg College several weeks ago.

Immediately after receiving the word of your husband's passing I went down to the Bank to see Mr. George Bailey. From him I learned such facts as are now in his possession. Somehow, it is impossible

for me to adjust my thinking
to the fact that the Church is
no longer an inspiration
of Dr. Speer's leadership. In fact,
the world will be the poorer for
his departure. At the same time
heaven will be enriched and he
himself has even now seen
his Saviour's Face and so is
satisfied.

As for myself, I have lost a true
friend and counsellor in
this and other lands will feel
as I do.

Last week I was in a conference
at Buck Hill Falls with Dr. Mott
as leader. Truly these two men
have wrought mightily for their
Lord.

May you be comforted by the
God of all comfort and may you be
sustained by His grace both
now and ever.

Most sincerely yours,
Raymond T. Shattock

✓ 4 Goofey Road
Upper Montclair
No. 301

Dear Mrs. Speer,

We have been thinking
of you very much all
this week. There is so
much more that we can
never be able to say than
what we can say.

That beautiful service
at Bryn Mawr still lives
with me. I don't know
when an organ, placing
these splendid formulas

hymns has meant so much
to me. It was all so
fitting and so up-lifting.

I don't need to tell you
how I have loved and
almost worshipped
Mr. Speer, ever since
Princeton days, forty
years ago. There were
indeed giants in those
days. And he was the
most beloved and admired.
I had the unique privilege
of being one of that student
generation. How much he

meant so much, then of
being one of his mission-
aries in Iran, and
then of being a junior
associate in 1956. It
was the few years
which kept coming back
the most during the
service. We in Wurzburg
were cut off from the
world for nearly a year.
There's all the thought
of Mr. Speer, like a
sort of Gibraltar, kept
sustaining us.

I was so glad that
both Harry and Bill
could be with you.

It is hard to feel that
he has gone. He had
such enduring strength.
Bob, in the ~~the~~ sense,
he is very much with
us. And his inspiration
goes right on in the work
which he loves and led.

Our love and sympathy
and fellowship and thanks-
giving are all about you.
Sincerely yours.

Tom W. & Friederick

1100 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

My dear Mrs. Speer -

We have learned with
deep regret of the passing of
your dear husband - Though
we knew him but slightly
in a personal way, we
have always had great
admiration and regard
for him - May we offer our
sincere sympathies for you
and your family in your
bereavement -

Very sincerely yours

Agnes Friederick

for all the family -

November 30, 1947

MRS. J. RUSSELL CHANDLER

124-OLMSTEAD AVENUE
BRONX 61, NEW YORK CITY

164 N. Grant Ave.
Littleton, Colo.

My dear Mrs. Spens.

I did not know of Dr. Spens going until my husband's copy of Tuesday morning arrived belatedly this week - forwarded from New York. The date of his death coincided with my husband's last Sunday in his New York church so that

there was a period, during
the upheaval of moving and
driving west when we did
not even look at a news-
paper.

Finis the account I judge
that he was called home
quietly in a beautiful way;
but I know that does not
make your loneliness any
easier to bear. But knowing

MRS. J. RUSSELL CHANDLER
1241 OLMSTEAD AVENUE
BRONX 61, NEW YORK CITY

you and the triumphant way
in which you have met life
all these years, I am sure that
your faith has not failed
you in these difficult days.

Oddly enough a few
members of our old committee
had had tea together at "156"
on Friday, the 21st before I
left town. That fellowship

meant a great deal to me
and some of the things which
you said, I still remember
clearly.

I thought of you as we
drove through Lakerville on
October 3rd. My husband
had read his resignation the
preceding Sunday & the ac-
companiment of many tears.
We fled town immediately and

191 Hazelwood Ave.

Bridgeport Conn.

With our deep sympathy

W.H.

• Mrs. William R. Richards



We always remember
Dr Speer's lovely chapter

~~Mr. Tom Franklin Richards.~~
about my father

Mrs Henry Blaikie -

✓ 49, Claude St. Scarsdale

Dec. 10th

As I listened to "Unity" this morning over the Radio at 8:45 A. M. my thoughts turned to you dear Emma as they have many many times since your beloved husband was taken. At such times when one is passing through and trying to endure such suffering ^{as yours} it is difficult to express in words all I feel for you. I don't think I shall try, they are too deep, as I myself know from having had the same experience and all these years;

Struggling and trying
to snail my responsibilities
with out Harry by my
side.

I am going to quote,
what I have recently read.
As the following lines
express so much more
tangibly and comfortingly
all that is in my heart
for you dear dear Emma.
"Each is building his world
from within; thought is the
builder; for thoughts are
forces, — subtle, vital,
irresistible, omnipotent,
and according as each is
used does it bring health
or harm, power or weakness,

success or failure."

"I am making God the
supreme habit of my
soul as I realize moment
by moment, that

"underneath are the
everlasting arms".

With a heart full of
tender love for you dear
your friend

of many years

• Dr. J. Blake •

Flowers Englewood
✓

185 EAST PALISADE AVENUE
ENGLEWOOD, N.J.

November 24th
1947

My very dear Emma Speer

To you and your dear all,
all old time friends, we Williams
send over heartfelt sympathy and
warmest love. To have known
Robert Speer and to have had him
for a close friend has given
lasting joy to us all
Affectionately
Fred

✓ 1130 A North Main St -

Tulsa 6 Okla -

Dec. 5th 1947

Dear Mrs Speer: -

Although so late in the week, with air mail + special delivery stamps, I'll send it today, hoping you may receive it tomorrow (Satdy).

Dr. Speer's passing has greatly saddened those of us who knew him well, - how much more you + all the family. He seemed so very much needed now here in this very needy world of today. - as well as in the Board Rooms - for the Board has so much to do now in this "needy world" - + more than ever it would seem -

In looking through a large collection of letters yesterday, I came upon one from Miss Wisedell, (who used to have charge of the information desk you will remember)

2

Recounting the many changes that had taken place, she wrote "Our dear Mr. Speer is with us and I sincerely hope will not leave us for years, although I believe he may retire within a very few years. What a change it will be and HOW (in capitals) are we ever going to get along without such a saintly man, at the head of this great Board for it is truly so." I still have his letter written at that time, in reply to mine, & hope to keep it until I must clear up all my reminiscences of those days, — not leave them for others who do not know either the writer or the circumstances — so precious to me —

I have wondered how long he was ill. The paper did not state how long he had been in hospital. I asked Dr. Kerr but he, also, did not know —

I have just been ³ re-reading Dr Scofield's note on Chap. 7. of Revelation, especially re the time of "Jacob's Trouble" and its woes of Jerusalem & the Holy Land. It truly looks as if that time has arrived - does it not?

Not long ago I read somewhere (but forget where) a conversation between two men here in U.S. One said he had been in South America buying horses for Russia. The other said "then it would be heavy horses he supposed" (probably meaning work horses). The other replied "no, light, speedy, horses - ^{power} that Russia depended more upon horses in war than upon planes." And that corresponds exactly with the prophecy in Ezekiel chaps. 38 & 39. Although it looks as if the end is approaching, & the Lord will be returning. Does it not? — The last time I saw —

talked with Dr Speer was when he spoke in our church. I am now so deaf that I cannot hear anything from the pulpit, but when it was over he came & sat in one of the pews, & we had a nice conversation. His subject had been along that line - I asked him why our ministers did not give this to the people. He replied "they were afraid to" - and now the one who would not have feared to give these needed themes to the people is taken away - still a comparatively young man - How strange! But the Lord knows best.

How you are missing him! And all the family. I suppose it was not possible for the daughter in England to get here in time to see him again - (Mrs Barlow or Boston) But I hope she could -

I pray & trust that you will be helped
 by the Lord's own wonderful grace to
 bear your great loss - I would like
 to see your ^(no. Rockledge) Lastcote Conn. home, but
 it isn't likely I ever shall. To do our
 little "chores" here now for the present
 (hoping the housing situation will improve)
 is enough for one who is going to be
84, on the 1st of Jan'y. 1948. Perhaps
 you have heard of the other old woman
 who when asked what she did all day, re-
 plied "Sometimes I set & think, and
 sometimes I just set" well sometimes
 I do "set & think" but not for long
 and now I must get into the kitchen.

May you all be greatly helped
 in your sorrow & loneliness, & with
 love, Sam

very sincerely yours

Lavinia M. Rollstone -
 (1948)

P.S.

England seems to be suffering of greatly
for actual needs - even food. It is
distressing. Can you send anything to
your daughter?

Please forgive errors - Eyes not so
good as they used to be - and the oculist
will not give me any other glasses! -
Says it would be waste of money! - He
is a good oculist too - a member of our
own church -

When you do call your home -
"Lakeville" - as well as Rockledge -
anyway you will get my letter, I
(hope) -

✓

Dearest Emma -

There are times when words fail to express our innermost feelings and this is one of them.

I want you to know how deeply I sympathize with you in the passing on of your husband.

Your loss is irreparable!

Only one, who also has been obliged to give up a beloved companion, can understand what you are suffering now.

It is the utter loneliness
and emptiness, that so
suddenly confronts us, which
is hard to bear.

Fortunately you have beau-
tiful memories of your dear
one and you will feed on
these more and more as
the years pass.

My mind goes back to the
years when we all lived
in Englewood and my
admiration and respect
for Dr. Spear were very great.
I do not ^{know} anyone whose
soul continually expanded
throughout his life.

All the good works he did
could never be written

down, for he never talked about himself. He represented ^{all} that was fine and true and was a living example to everyone. You, who were his inspiration here on earth, will miss him sadly, but you realize that he has entered Eternal Life gloriously, and that he is still with you in spirit. I believe that when the spirit is released from the body, it is nearer us here than ever before. I wish I might say something to help you but you will know where to look for help and God will not fail you.

It would give me great satisfaction

if I could see you, for our
friendship has always
been sacred to me and
separation has not changed
it in any way.

May God bless you, dear,
and give you strength
to bear the burden.

With love and devotion -

Ever yours

Belle Fifield Workeu

November 27.

V

2100 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, 3
Pa.

Nov. 28, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:-

Words fail me when I try to express my feelings at the news of Mr. Speer's "Home-going". I know how lonely you feel and how you will miss him, but I also know your wonderful faith and courage which will enable you to "carry-on"!

You have the joy and comfort of knowing

the countless blessings he
brought to many, many
people all over the world,
who will "rise up and
call him blessed." But-
how we need such men
here!

My thoughts turn to
the few happy days I
spent in your home in
Englewood, and my days
in the Board, and how
happy I was! It was through
Dr. Dyer I met my beloved
"Mrs. John" - what a wonderful
reunion for them!

Please express my sympathy
to the members of your family.
(Mrs. John D.) Sincerely yours,
Anna Head Harnock

100 EAST PALISADE AVENUE - ENGLEWOOD - NEW JERSEY

25 November 1947

Dear Marnie,

These are the cards which came with the flowers which we arranged in the chapel. I thought it would be easier for your mother if I sent them directly to you and you can give them to her when you think best. I know she must be very tired and I am sorry I cannot be around once in a while to give her a hand with all the letters she will want to write.

My happy association with your family through the many years is something I like to think about and from which I get lots of ideas in handling the problems we all have in these trying times.

It was nice to see you again but hard to realize that such a sad occasion had brought us together.

If there is anything I can do for your mother at any time I know you will call upon me. Please give her my love.

Faithfully,

Helen A. Bagley

✓ Send him
just one thousand dollars

FIFTY EAST TENTH STREET • NEW YORK CITY 3

Dear Aunt Emma:-

Happy people are so taken for granted in this world. it would seem as the one instant nearly confines it self to those who are unhappy. Then a change and we say to ourselves "My, but they were happy together, why didn't we try to understand a bit more clearly on what their happiness rested." And maybe we wonder if we had shown, in but a small way, an appreciation of their happiness and an looking to it as a source of strength. So with you & Uncle Bob and many

are there are feel as do I. Many, many
years of love and understanding and
the happiness from them constantly growing
and growing ever. They & I need our
love to you.

Yours lovingly
Randall

11/24/47

GRS



✓ 90 Morningside Drive

November 27

Dear Mrs. Speer,

It was very good of Margaret to notify me of Mr. Speer's passing. There will be thousands to praise him far more adequately than I. But I do wish to express Laura's sympathy and mine for you, and my gratitude to him and to you for the kindnesses you extended to me and the opportunities you provided when I was young, and the privilege of knowing you both these many years.

Affectionately yours,

Roger Loomis

407

157 Park-T2 "Third."

✓

Dear dear Mrs. Adele -

You are constantly

in my mind in your grief - loss and
loneliness, and I can't find words
to express my sympathy for you - But -
you know so well where to find comfort -
and I know you must - be very thankful
that Dr. Adele is still - so very thoughtful

a short time. Peace will come to
your door, and his long life of
happiness and loving service will
fill your heart with healing. My
understanding and sympathies are with
you, and my love -

Antoniette J. Myers

Portland 25 - 1947

443

142 EAST THIRTY-EIGHTH STREET
NEW YORK

My very dear Queen

You are ever in my thoughts
With deep, for to have at an
end here, after already a
life long complicated &
harrow to face. & now also
but I know you feel

the "Everlasting Arms are
around you" & nothing can
take that blessed feeling
away - Some day not far
with my love hope to see you
I all your ever devoted
Katherine L. Cheeket -
Nov 26.

1883. ~~Dear~~ Mrs. Robinson in California.

Dear Mrs. Speer & Louise

A The sad news of your husband's death came as a great shock to Louise and me. We did not know that he was seriously ill, until last Sunday when Dr Coffin told me of the were he had just received

R I know there were many who prayed he might be spared to you and to us

But it was not to be.

In spite of great sorrows and bereavements I still believe that God knows best and we can only bow to his will.

Dr Speer's sermons and indeed his whole life will continue to be an inspiration to me and many others.

Words dear Mrs Speer are so inadequate but believe me that you and your family have losses and my deepest sympathy. Sincerely yours
Anna Robinson
Nov. 26/47



Lakeville
Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Squires,

How we shall
all miss dear Dr. Squires
in our community with
all his force and knowledge.
He combined so many
wonderful qualities in his
nature with a most vigorous
mind with always more
to give. We may count
ourselves most fortunate
in having him in our
midst through these years
and he has left us
that will live on in our

earth and minds.

It has been, such
as Dr. Squires, leaves
much in this world to
live by, for which we
must all be grateful.

When one thinks of
the many, many lives he
touches and the far
reaching good in the
world, we may be
thankful from the bottom
of our hearts for his long
life.

To you and your family,
John and I send our
sincere sympathy and
prayers in your sorrow.

Affectionately

Wm. H. Cleeney

Nov. 26th

850 GAYLORD STREET
DENVER, COLORADO

Dec. 31st

Dear Drs. Speer: -

I have only recently returned to Denver from New York and wanted to write to you at once on hearing of Dr. Speer's death. But due to a slight accident I met with while there I was unable

to do so.

You have been much
in my thoughts however
and I can well imagine
the adjustment you
are having to make in
your new life.

So many years
of such care and trouble
as you and I have
enjoyed are given to few.
But the desperation
of your lives and the

blessing they have been
To so many both young
and old should be a
source of great comfort
to you.

Please only answer
you of my own sleep
whatever for the eyes
of association with you.
We have just had
a slight visit from
Mrs. Axupore who told
me of her visit in your
house. She seems to

be keeping well in
spite of the damage
it does you.

May God bless you

richly during the
coming year.

Love and affection-
Alice C. M. Bintch

Sunday, December 14th, 1947

SPRING HILL
MOBILE
ALABAMA

Dear Mrs. Speer,

Tom & McMillan & I heard just yesterday of Dr. Speer's death. We want to send you our love and our deepest sympathy. It was a privilege to have known Dr. Speer - He was so fine, and he was an inspiring Christian & all who knew him loved & admired him -

We enjoyed so much being with you both when you were in Mobile and

Having Dr. Speer have dinner with us at Montreal when he came there.

Mrs. McMullan senior died this past summer. She would have been eighty six in September had she lived. Alice is home this winter with us but Margaret is still at Converse College in Spartanburg & has one more year. We're enjoying so much having Alice at home with us.

Again telling you how sorry we are to hear of your husband's death
With deepest sympathy
Sincerely,
Lucia Warden McMullan

✓

125 N. First St
Winter Haven
Florida - Jan 8.

Dear Mrs. Speer,

Mrs. Lester Brown, who is near us in the neighboring town of Lake Alfred, has told me of the passing on of Dr. Speer.

May I add my word of love and sympathy to you and my humble appreciation of what you two have stood for and worked for all your lives? It must be a great joy to look back and see the long years of happy co-operation in a life of service -

The world needs more like

like the Speers.

With much appreciation,

Sincerely,

Thelma W. Brim

(Mrs C. L. Brim)

✓
Miss Edith N. Stanton

1360 Ontario Avenue

Pasadena 2, California

December 7- 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Last night before the fire, we read the enclosed editorial and remembered together some of the lonely times we had spent with you, and often with Dr. Speer too, in the fellowship of his & our great work together. Blessings upon you and loving thoughts are in our hearts for you and the family.

Sincerely
Rosalee Verable

Dear Mrs. Speer -

Rosalee is visiting me for two weeks from her home in Berkeley & we were both saddened to learn of Dr. Speer's going. We had not known just why. Louise Brooks will have read this article, as she lives in Pasadena - & would be

writing you if she could write - I know. She
seems to stay about the same. Now that
Miss Bronson is gone, she has a house -
keeper - companion who takes excellent care
of her & she seems very happy.

Please know of my sincere sympathy with
you in Dr. Speer's going & my loving thoughts.
I hope you yourself are well -

With warm wishes -

Very sincerely yours -
Edith N. Stanton

MRS. ARTHUR BAVE
963 VIRGIL AVENUE
RIDGEFIELD, NEW JERSEY
MORSEMORE 6-4956

December 2, 1947

My dear Mrs Barbour:

Last evening I wrote Mother at Lakeville because I had mislaid your letter and tonight find it in my bag where I put it as I was going to New York when the mail man handed it to me.

I do so much appreciate your writing to me because otherwise I might not have known

Mrs Speer has been an anchor for me during the past thirty years - her friendliness unfailing as it has been was something strong and steady to tie to. And she has constantly sent me booklets and things which were so very helpful. I do not like to think of her as being hurt in any way.

I am so glad that you and your sister and brother are near to help carry the load while it is heaviest.

Again I thank you.

Very sincerely,

Sara Bave

145 River's Forest Dr.
Lake Bluff -
Illinois.

✓

WILLIAM WALLACE
Calle Del Sena No. 69
Mexico, D. F., Mexico

December 10 - 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer:-

My brother Tom, mem-

ber of Westminster Church has just sent me a lovely tribute from Rev. Low, its pastor, in recognition of your husband's character as a Christian statesman. It was the first news ^{I had} of his death, as none of my religious news papers or magazines have been forwarded to me.

My wife preceded me to Glory twenty years ago; so I understand how lonely you must feel since the departure of "Bobby Speer" as he was affectionately called by the members of the Mexico Mission when he was Secretary for Latin America -

Moreover I'm sure the God of all comfort
will comfort you with the comfort with
which He alone knows how to comfort
his children.

The last time I heard him speak and
had a good chat with him, showing him
photographs of our former missionaries & Mex-
ico, was one summer I spent in Montreal
several years ago. I am glad he was
able to continue in active service up to
the last.

I know he would have enjoyed being
at the Diamond Wedding of Presbyterians
worker in Mexico lasting a week here in
Mexico City 23-30th of November. A General
assembly with 3 Synods was organized as
the culmination of the services. We had many
delegates from the U.S. and from various
countries of Latin America -

When you write to Margaret Spear please
give her my sympathies & affectionate regards.
The last time I saw her was when I

visited the Yenching University where she was
Dean of women.

Affectionately yours -

Will Wallace

I came down specially to attend the
Bodas da Liberdade and am returning
to Lake Bluff, ^{the way} Illinois (145 Ravine Forest
Dr.) where I make my home with my two
married daughters) W. W -

86 East End Avenue,
New York City, N.Y.
November 25th.

Muddie darling,

I have been thinking about you, you especially and Marnie and Billy, and Patty too, very much, and very lovingly at this time. I know how comfortingly you will all help one another in this loneliness, for there must be a kind of human loneliness even while you know the blessing of the communion of the Saints. I shall miss the fine strong presence of Mr. Speer very much myself, from the days up at Camp Diamond when he used to be so good and gay with all of us children to the days when I saw him last up at Lakeville when he would welcome me so affectionately, like a real member of his own family. But I too feel that he will still keep me as a member of his own family, sustaining me in these sad, hard days of the world.

I wish that I could have been at the services in Bryn Mawr and at Englewood, but somehow I felt that he would want me to carry on with my work - which pretty well filled both days. I can imagine how bravely and sacrificially the services were celebrated, with your steadfast faith to sustain you all.

Thank you and Billy and Marnie for keeping me in close touch with you all. Billy told me that Patty was coming home and that will give you joy. I wonder if she is bringing Fiona with her as she planned to do when I was there. I hope I may see her before she, or they go home. I do love you all very much.

I am going down tomorrow to Washington for the Thanksgiving Holiday to be with the Senior Links and the Grahams. My sister is so much worse than she was, and still triumphantly heroic.

Love, *Christine*.

X
Nov. 26th
1947

GOULD FARM
GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

My Darling —
When my dear are "entred
into life" — I love. Margaret's
telephone — a bell
which sustains me greatly
was from a poem of Samuel
T. Coleridge: —

"Embosomed deep in thy dewy bower,
Held in thy lap. I stand,
Thy hand in all things I behold,
Under all things in thy hand.
Thou leadest me by smooth way
Under trust thy morning "
into Paradise

May ever share these words
with each other - See the
great meekness, your and your
beloveds, and all the
hosts in Heaven and earth
are blissfully together
in the sublime Thanksgiving
that there is no separation
but an union so complete
that, as dear Rose said
to me at that vital time
in my life, "Yours is a paragon
of '76" - May ever have the
paragon together dear ones.
Yours an devoted
Agnes.

A Prayer.

We seem to give him back to Thee, dear Lord, who gavest him to us. Yet Thou did not lose him in giving, so we have not lost him by his return. Not as the world givest, givest Thou, O' lover of souls! What Thou givest Thou takest not away; for what is Thine is ours always, if we are Thine. And life is eternal; and love is immortal; and death is only a horizon; and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.

Lift us up, therefore, strong Son of God, that we may see further; cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly ; draw us closer to Thyself that we may know ourselves nearer to our beloved who is with Thee. And while Thou dost prepare a place for us, prepare us for that happy place, that where they are, we too may be. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer.

Almighty God, we come to Thee because we need Thee. Without Thee we are poor and weak, and with Thee we can be brave and strong. We bow ourselves before Thy will. We yield ourselves before Thy law. Thou sendest forth Thy spirit, we are created; Thou takest away our breath, we return to Thee. In death as in life, in sorrow as in joy, Thou art waiting to bless us, if we but turn to Thee. Thou dost gird and guide us, though we know it not; and the shadow with which Thou darknest our way is but the shadow of Thy close-approaching and over-brooding presence.

Send us back to out lives more eager to serve Thee, and more inclined to live Thee, as though in this mysterious presence we had learned to know the deeper meaning and responsibility of life. Amid the changes of this world make us strong and calm, because we rest in Thee. Amen.

6/24 ✓

1148 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 28 N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Speer and Marie.

Word has just come of the home-going of our dear Dr. Speer. How we all did love him. What a privilege it has been to us through the years of being able to claim a tiny particle his life and then serve under him, as our leader.

God bless you these days. Our hearts and prayers will be with you. I am enclosing two prayers which have meant much to Ed and me.

Our deepest love and tenderest sympathy to you now and through the days ahead.

With constant and abiding love to you. Longly

Susan Clark Hohenstein

Christ the Comforter.

" Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." *John xi: 26.*

Beside the dead I knelt for prayer,
And felt a presence as I prayed.
Lo ! it was Jesus standing there.
He smiled : " Be not afraid ! "

"Lord, Thou hast conquered death, we know ;
Restore again to life," I said,
"This one who died an hour ago."
He smiled : " He is not dead ! "

"Asleep then, as thyself didst say,
Yet thou canst lift the lids that keep
His prisoned eyes from ours away !"
He smiled : " He doth not sleep ! "

"Nay then, tho' haply he do wake,
And look upon some fairer dawn,
Restore him to our hearts that ache !"
He smiled : " He is not gone ! "

"Alas ! too well we know our loss,
Nor hope again our joy to touch
Until the stream of death we cross."
He smiled : " There is no such ! "

"Yet our beloved seem so far,
The while we yearn to feel them near,
Albeit with thee we trust they are."
He smiled : " And I am here ! "

"Dear Lord, how shall we know that they
Still walk unseen with us and thee,
Nor sleep, nor wander far away ?"
He smiled : " Abide in Me. "



1238 Warren Place, Elizabeth N.J.
December 2nd 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer,

What an abundant entrance to glory, dear Dr. Speer had when he departed to be with Christ, whom he had served so faithfully and in such close fellowship! What reunions he has had with loved ones and missionary associates who had gone on before. A day of great rejoicing for him.

It seems so wonderful that he went "Home" so near to Thanksgiving Day, because hundreds of friends who knew and loved him could on that day thank God for what Robert E. Speer meant to them personally, because his life was tied with Christ in God. He inspired me

when first I heard him speak at the Student Conference in Stuttgarter, I think in 1893. He put his autograph in one of the hymnals for me and the Scripture reference Col 2:10 - "Ye are complete in him." His address "The Religion of Unselfishness" made a profound impression on me.

And then, later, what a privilege it was to feel closer to him in the fellowship of service in the Foreign Board for about 30 years. Thank God, "he yet speaketh." Memory holds him very dear.

Some one told me that he was compiling another devotional book, to follow "Five Minutes a Day." If this has been published or is to be published, I should like to know of it. Maybe Margaret could write one some time later and let me know about it.

To you, to her and to the others of your family, Mrs Thrall and I extend our sincerest sympathy in your grief that the bodily presence of husband and

father is now absent. But what a joy to have had such relationships
with him for so many years.

In case you have not seen the enclosed poem "Christ the Comforter",
you may like to have it. It came under my eye some years ago.

Sincerely yours,

George W. Treull



Mrs. Robert E. Speer
& Miss Margaret B. Speer
The Shipler School
Brynn Drawr
Pa.

Mrs. Henry W. Luce
836 Buck Lane
Haverford Pennsylvania

Hanford - Pa.



Dec. 4th '47

Dear Mrs. Speer: - The service for
your husband was so very beautiful
that I am sure it must have touched
all hearts with the sense of something
not of this world, yet forever a part of
our human needs and aspirations.
Sitting there one could not help, one
could only think of something glorious
having happened beyond our ken.

to him who has so fastfully, and with
utter humility, lived and walked
with God. Two outstanding impressions
have deepened over the fifty years
since I first knew Dr. Sise.

One was his rock-like faith - This
was an amazing thing to me as it must
have been to countless others; indeed, if
the story could be told it would be found,
I think, that the quality of his faith,
invincible as it has been, has saved
hundreds of souls from the despair of doubt.
You recall Matthew Arnold's words
about his father "And through thee I believe
in the noble and great who are gone;

— Souls tempered with fire

Ferent, heroic and good,

Helpers and friends of Mankind -

The other thought - or the certainty - about
him is this: I feel sure that he never
lost the consciousness of fellowship and
communion with his Lord. His memory is
vivid, even as I write these words.

It used to seem, when he spoke, either
publicly or just in friendly greeting, that
another was with him, at his side, the

unseen Presence of which he was perfectly
and radiantly conscious.

On another sheet I have copied the
lonely prayer offered at Pleshey after the
death of Evelyn Underhill. Yesterday
I read this to a friend who knew Dr. Spiller
and he thought, as I did, that it is mag-
nificently true of your husband.

Ever yours sincerely,

Elizabeth R. Luce.

"O God, who by the lees of those who leave Thee dost
refashion the Souls of men,
We give Thee thanks for the Ministry of Thy servant
Evelyn;
In whose life and words Thy love and majesty were
made known to us,
Whose loving Spirit set our Spirits on fire,
Who learnt from ~~Thee~~ the Shepherd's care for His
Sheep;
Grant that some measure of this Spirit which she received
from Thee may fall on us who loved her.
We ask it for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord."

In reading this with my friend, I substituted "Robert" for Evelyn and
changed the two pro-nouns. It seemed the perfect prayer of thanks
for his life of love & service. S. P. L.

H
appy
Just
Hallow

Dear H. B. Manning,
2580 Main St.

Jan. 11, 1911

✓ *J*

cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead. He is just away!

With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand
He has wandered into an unknown land

And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be, since he lingers there.
And you - oh you, who the wildest yearn
For the old-time step and the glad return

Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There as the love of Here

Think of him still as the same, I say,
He is not dead - he is just away.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

miss Manning

25K104
KEATING
PHILADELPHIA

A PRINCE IN ISRAEL!

A Prince in Israel now sleeps, to wake
In the Elysian fields, 'midst the throng
Of the Redeemed! His pilgrimage, so long
And glorious, at end! No shadows break
Upon him there, but light! He walks in wake
Of countless souls, whom he has taught the song
Of Moses and the Lamb! His life, so strong,
Lasts on, in endless day, for Christ's own sake!

His rich, creative powers of heart and mind,
Their full fruition reap, above the sun
And stars, in heav'n's full-orbed, fadeless emprise!
Our loss, his gain! Forever he shall find
The truth he loved and lived! His work is done,
On earth, now glorified beyond the skies!

R.E.S.

W.H.F.

November 23:1947.

193 West Main Street, Norwalk, Ohio.

✓
November 26:1947.

Dear Mrs. Speer; -

May I extend to you, and to your children, my Christian condolences! I pray that you may find the strong and sheltering solace of the "Everlasting Arms!" May our Heavenly Father guide and guard you, and give you comfort and courage for the night of sorrow, until the morning comes, with those whom you "have loved and lost awhile!"

Faithfully,

William Hiram Foulkes
William Hiram Foulkes

Mrs. Robert E. Speer

(enclosure)

shaw
Anderson
P. Rossi
via Balbo, 4
Roma
Italia



Hotel de la Ville
Rome

My dear Mr. Speer

I have just heard
of Dr. Speer's passing.
I want to send you
my deepest sympathy. I know
and affection for him is so
that you can grieve
great that you can grieve
in his years of service.
I know that the over
personal loss is
whelming. Always with regard -

Eleazar Gruhaver Anderson

December 20, 1947,

Brachysomus
1011 ex. 500 Blads
Orelli Ex

The New Country - ✓

"Think of stepping on shore,
And finding it Heaven!"

Of taking hold of a hand,
And finding it God's hand!

Of breathing a new air,
And finding it Celestial air!

Of feeling invigorated,
And finding it Immortality!

Of passing from storm & tempest
To an unbroken Calm!

Of waking up, and finding
it Home!"

"God Changeth never"
Let naught disturb thee,
Naught fright thee ever;
All things are passing;
God changeth never,
Patience e'er conquers;
With God for thine own
Thou nothing dost lack—
He sufficeth alone"

"TRUST In the Master Weaver"



When dark gray threads
are woven
And seem
so out of line,
Trust in the Master Weaver
Who planned
the whole design.





In all life's choicest patterns
Dark threads are always there
To make the gay threads brighter,
The gold and rose more fair.

At times it all seems intricate
And hard to understand,
But trust in the Master Weaver
And His steady guiding hand.

15 AL 1837
COPYRIGHT MCMXXXV
RUST CRAFT BOSTON, U. S. A.

ELIN
OBERG

W.H.

Nov. 28. 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Please accept these lines
which carry you my love
better than I can ex-
press it myself

your friend.

Elin

TWENTY-SIX THE STRAND
NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE

2905-1
✓

My dear Miss Fox
Dear Fox

Dear Mrs. Spur: To the many,
many ~~deformities~~ which are
coming to you in Robert's
life, allow me to add
the enclosed lines. They
do come from the heart,
some of them were I
permed on the occasion of
his ~~practical~~ anniversary
as Foreign Board secretary.

My own heartily to the
give you ^{and} ~~of~~ ^{the} the
sincerest of His abundant
peace.

Sincerely yours
Elliott Field

November twenty-sixth

ROBERT ELLIOTT SPEER

1867-1947

Strong souled, great hearted, with a vast concern
For mighty matters burning in his breast,
He held no barter with the bid of fame,
The lure of cottoned ease, the blandishments
Of power and gold, nor shunned the pilgrimage
O'er moor and morass toward the sun-capped hills.
He stood, these years, a tow'ring crest up thrust
Above the plains of littleness and sloth,
With meekness terrible. The teeming hours
He channeled to one purpose--that the world
Might find its Nazarene and know its peace.
He challenged, deep and sure, the heart of youth,
And, lo! a host flung forth with eager feet
Love shod to speed th' evangel of the Christ.

His sword is sheathed but the edge it gave
To other blades will carry on the fight
For righteousness. How rich those work-filled days!
How can such die! His radiant, glowing faith,
His life incarnate in our quest for God,
Will trumpet us to triumphs he has won.

Elliot Field

✓ OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING BISHOP

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Under separate cover I am returning the book used yesterday in the service. I do wish you to know how greatly moved I was to have a share in the tribute to Dr. Speer. I hear him

just when I was ten years old at school in
Brooklyn and I can remember vividly what he
said after almost fifty years. Then at Hatcheries
and Yale and Student Conventions he continues
to influence me. He was one who led me to
the ministry and I thank God for every remembrance
of him. With the prayer that God will
give you strength & comfort. Faithfully yours.
A. K. Skinner
Dec 16.



205 *Gelanthus nivalis* - Kl. Schneeklocklein
Pâce-neige - Bucaneve - Snowdrop
Viola silvana - Waldvölkchen

205 Magnolia
209

Gloriosa 69126
29 May 1947
2 hours 1947.

24 November
2 hours 1947.

Our papers and the radio
have brought the word
about Dr. Speer. Please
know that I send you
assurance of our continual
thought about you. The
years have gone by so very
fast and have brought
so many changes. We
have learned that life is
death and death is life
all interwoven. My sister
Bess and I watch
you for all your ^{other} ~~other~~ days
and Dr. Speer means ^{to} ~~in~~ my ^{other} ~~other~~ days.

- Adelboden -

Printed in Switzerland - Imprimé en Suisse

the procession with no
particular fear - only
wondering when we shall
join it. Mrs. Charles A.
Rawson, who was so
devoted to the Young
Womens Christian Association
in this section was re-
leaved October 2 - 1947 -
age 79 yrs 5 months 10 days.
My mother and father would
have been 90 and 93 this year.
Thanks you for all your ^{other} ~~other~~ days
and Dr. Speer means ^{to} ~~in~~ my ^{other} ~~other~~ days.
Sincerely Etha Louis Buchanan.

✓

✓ The S. ~~h~~
He
Is Just
Away

✓



You cannot say, you must not say
That he is dead. He is just away.
With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand
He has wandered into an unknown land,
And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be, since he lingers there;
So think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There as the love of Here,
Think of him still as the same, and say
He is not dead, he is just away.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

The Sunaka Family
SAMIAH

105915A
MADE IN U.S.A.

Copyright, 1887-1914
James Whitcomb Riley

W.H.

Miss Mabel Stanway Jackson

99. East Linden Ave
Englewood N.J.

November 24-1947

My dear Dr Speer

We are thinking of
the many beautiful
things that you and
Dr Speer have given to
the world, and now I
know you weep and
rejoice at the same time.
I think the key-note is
Rejoice for we do want
the best for our land
Yes and we cannot
give what we know

Heaven can -
my love and sympathy
with you all.

Your friend
Marcel Stanley Jackson

This little prayer
Comforts me - I hope
it will comfort you

✓

We seem to give ~~him~~ back to thee, dear God, who gavest ~~him~~ to us. Yet, as thou didst not lose ~~him~~ in giving, so we have not lost ~~him~~ by ~~his~~ return. Not as the world giveth, givest thou, O Lover of souls! What thou givest, thou takest not away. For what is thine is ours always, if we are thine. And Life is eternal; and love is immortal; and death is only a horizon; and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight. Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may see further; cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly; draw us closer to thyself that we may know ourselves nearer to our beloved who are with thee. And while thou dost prepare a place for us, prepare us for that happy place, that where they are, and thou art, we too may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saw Cardinal M. once in Rome, and once
expressed — Such a personality. A friend
gave me his "Secret," and I have had a number
of them printed.
CARDINAL MERCIER J.H.F.
ON

"Secret Sanctity"

"I am going to reveal to you a secret of sanctity and happiness.

"If every day during five minutes you will keep your imagination quiet, shut your eyes to all the things of sense and close your ears to all sounds of earth, so as to be able to withdraw into the sanctuary of your baptised soul, which is the temple of the Holy Spirit, speaking to that Holy Spirit, saying:

*'O Holy Spirit, soul of my soul, I adore Thee,
Enlighten, guide, strengthen and console me.
Tell me what I ought to do, and command me to do it.
I promise to be submissive in everything
that Thou permittest to happen to me,
only show me what is Thy will.'*

"If you will do this, your life will pass happily and serenely. Consolation will abound even in the middle of troubles. Grace will be given in proportion of trial as well as strength to bear it, bringing you to the Gates of Paradise" . . .

X

JOHN HENRY STRONG
THE ANTLERS
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Thursday Nov. 13.

Dear Emma:

Your letter has come with its word of Robert's severe illness — written Monday. I am with you in most earnest prayer. May you feel the "Everlasting Arms" in the trial of uncertainty, as wisdom is given "liberally" for every step needing to be taken. In Robert the condition required by Romans 8: 11 is so truly fulfilled that I am asking that the "quickening" of the Spirit may be richly given.

Only a few weeks ago I lost my earliest intimate boyhood friend, Ryland Kendrick, and am pleading with our Father to still leave me Robert... His mere presence with us here is such a wealth of comfort, counsel, joy and strength. May it be, as we wait submissively and trustfully, sure that the Father will give us His very best.

My love to you both!

John

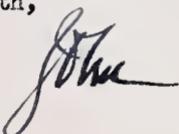
JOHN HENRY STRONG
THE ANTLERS
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Nov. 19, 1947

Dear Emma:

Robert and you are in my remembrance, I want you to know, day and night. Since Thursday, the fourteenth, at about four in the afternoon, I have been unable to be anxious about Robert; and though I know by experience that those gifts of peace need interpretation, and may mean no more than that we have been heard and that God will give due weight to our desires in his decisions, I still stay hopeful, saying to myself that "no news is good news".

One cannot forget that Robert and I are far along the trail where life-expectancy is not very great, yet I add to the thought of such a constitution as his, favored by temperate living, the thought of his vast capacity still to bless not his home and friends only but the needy ministry and the still needier church...! Well, we know who is at the helm, giving every fact, desire and need its full weight... With love to you both,



JOHN HENRY STRONG
THE ANTLERS
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

March 7/48

Dear Emma:

Thank you for those lines. Yes, I'll gladly write my Andover memories of Robert, I hope ere long. A friend called my attention to some moving lines from Henry King, was was Bishop of Chichester in the seventeenth century. His wife, younger than he, had preceded and was waiting for him —

"Whose more years might crave
A just precedence to the grace".

He lingers — "But hark", he says: —

"my pulse, like a soft drum,
Beats my approach, tells thee I come;
And slow howe'er my marches be
I shall at last sit down by thee.
The thought of this bids me go on
And wait my dissolution
With hope and comfort. Dear— forgive
The crime — I am content to live
Divided with but half a heart,
Till we shall meet and never part".

Isn't that lovely?

Most affectionately,

John

3200 Henry Hudson Parkway, New York 63, N.Y.
November 20, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

When I read in yesterday's Times of the death of Dr. Speer my first feeling was one of desolation at the loss of a great leader in the advance of the Kingdom. But my second was one of deep gratitude that God had given such a man for so long a period and critical.

We deeply sympathize with you and the members of your family in your grief. You know better than we the one and only but so sure source of true comfort.

We enclose a little poem that has helped us. Sixteen years have passed since I was closely associated with Robert though I have known him over fifty years. I am now in my 82d year and shall greatly prize and record of his life particularly the last years or since his retirement.

Mrs. Laflamme joins me in this expression of sympathy. Not being sure of your present address I send this to 150 Fifth Avenue.

Pardon my use of the typewriter but my pen hand has lost its cunning.

Yours most sincerely,

Herbert F. Laflamme

Herbert F. Laflamme.

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1
HE LEADETH ME

In pastures green? Not always; sometimes He,
Who knoweth best, in kindness leadeth me
In weary ways, where heavy shadows be.

Out of the sunshine, warm and soft and bright,
Out of the sunshine into darkest night;
I oft would faint with terror and with fright.

Only for this -- I know He holds my hand;
So, whether in the green or desert land,
I trust, although I may not understand.

And by still waters? No, not always so;
Ofttimes the heavy tempests round me blow,
And o'er my soul the waves and billows go.

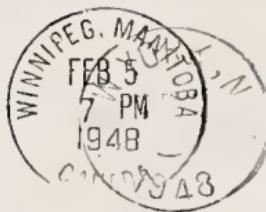
But when the storm beats loudest, and I cry
Aloud for help, the Master standeth by,
And whispers to my soul, "Lo, it is I!"

Above the tempest wild I hear Him say,
"Beyond this darkness lies the perfect day;
In every path of thine I lead the way."

So, whether on the hill-tops, high and fair,
I dwell, or in the sunless valleys, where
The shadows lie -- what matter? He is there.

And more than this; where'er the pathway lead,
He gives to me no helpless broken reed,
But His own hand, sufficient for my need.

So, where He leads me I can safely go;
And in the blest hereafter I shall know
Why, in His wisdom, He hath led me so.



Mr. R. E. Speer.

~~cf Board of Foreign Missions~~
~~156 Fifth Ave~~
~~New York City~~
R. E. Speer
156 Fifth Ave
New York City
U.S.A.

trans E. E. Dresser

5 1/4 Strandbroke ave
Winnipeg Manitoba
Canada

BY AIR MAIL

AIR LETTER

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED
THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT
BY ORDINARY MAIL.



Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Ave.,
Boyce Manor
Pennsylvania
El. A. C.

← To open cut here

Sender's name and address:-

M. C. Mc Lellan
9 Downing
Understand,
Murray.

← Second fold here

← To open cut here

9 Downsway.

understand, money
Jan. 22nd, 947

My dear Emma. -

My heart has gone
out to you in loving sympathy ever
since I learned of the loss of my
dear beloved husband. I know
you have been inundated with
letters, but no one can speak
with deeper affection and admiration
for Robert, than the
Cochran family. His influence
on my early years and the con-
stant inspiration of his close
walk with God can not be put
into words. I have just

received from your son his memorial
card, with its appropriate quo-
tations, as well as your note to her.
I am glad Mrs. Barber was able
to be with you, and that you are
to be in Bryn Drawr with Draycott
during the winter months.

After our "epile" in Brookham, we
have come back to the Croydon
district, Betty, my eldest daughter
7. She is now teaching in a

second son now in Turkey,
- taking an active part in the
Presbyterian Church. Mrs. —
Jean is married & has three
children, living in a country
village, near Middlestone. — They
still live in Silverstone in
her husband and my wife's
home. You will know from Mrs. Barber
the many difficulties & restrictions
of life in England these days.
But there are many inspiring
features here. Our Presby. Union Church
was richly celebrated the Centenary
of Foreign Missions, and has
inaugurated a year of Advance,
hoping to add to its member-
ship 10,000 new members. Our
own little church suffered severely
by in the Blitz, and we are
hoping to raise a substantial sum
for its restoration, in addition to
the War Damage allowance. Our
own house in Croydon has been compro-
mised by the Council & turned into
three apartments to house homeless
families.

My warm love & regards to
you, and so many happy

memories of past association
with you slope to mind -
May the God by all comfort
sustain and strengthen you.
The love of your friends is a
real bulwark.

With deep affection.

your friend

Mary Cochran MacLellan.

Mrs. David W. Torrance

Norfolk,

Conn



My dear friend -

When I happened to see a notice of a memorial service in the Sunday paper I didn't know that your husband had passed on. Please know that I am thinking of you. How wonderful that you had such a companion for so long! My love to you -
Elizabeth Monroe

✓ Lauri Corot
Englewood, N.J.

My dear Friend,

My own words
are so inadequate
to express my deep
appreciation of what
Mr. Speer has meant
to us all — That I

Can only read and
re-read Matthew
Arnold's lovely poem
from the little book,
"Five Minutes a Day"
(p. 82) and ask you
to join me in it.

My love to, you
and Marrie.

Florence B. Dodge

Mr. A. C. Cobb-

214 University ~~204~~
Oxford, Mississippi

Oxford, Mississippi
January 9th

My very dear friend:

Late this afternoon
I heard, by the merest accident, of
your great sorrow and I do ~~want~~
for you to know that my heart aches
for you and with you - I
feel a deep personal loss for
knowing Dr. Speen enriched my
life immeasurably and I shall
continue to feel the influence
of his saintly life - May

God, in His infinite mercy
and tenderness richly bless,
comfort and strengthen you -

Devotedly
Marie Cobb